THE WEEKLY COMMERCIAL

A LARGE SHEET CONTAINING ALL THE CURRENT NEWS, MISCELLANEOUS, LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC INTELLIGENCE AND VALUABLE READING FOR THE FAMILY.

TERMS OF THE WEEKLY:

Per Year, (52 issues)..... $2 00
In Clubs of Twenty..... 1 50
One copy gratis to the getter-up of the Club.

The money must always accompany the order, and no instance can these terms be deviated from.

☞ Postmasters are requested to act as Agents.

☞ Communications designed for publication should be addressed to the Editor.

☞ Letters on Business, Subscriptions, &c., address

COMMERCIAL, PITTSBURGH.

The Pittsburgh Commercial.

VOL. VII.---NO. 16. WEEKLY EDITION. FEBRUARY 19, 1870.

THE DAILY COMMERCIAL,

PUBLISHED BY THE COMMERCIAL PRINTING COMPANY

OFFICE, 76 FIFTH AVENUE, (OPPOSITE POSTOFFICE.)

C. D. BRIGHAM, - - - - - *Editor.*

R. D. THOMPSON, *Business Manager.*

TERMS OF THE DAILY:

Single Copy..... 3 Cents.
Delivered by Carrier (per week)..... 25 Cents.
Subscribers by Mail, (per year)..... $15 00.

☞ Communications designed for publication should be addressed to the Editor.

☞ Letters on Business, Subscriptions, &c., address

THE COMMERCIAL, PITTSBURGH.

THE NEW YORK PRESS.

Present Status of the Great Metropolitan Dailies.

The Tribune, World, Sun, Times and Herald--Their Circulation, Editorial Staff, and Money Making Capacity--The Principle Upon Which they are Conducted.

So widely read and known over the country are the leading morning dailies of New York, that every thing connected with their internal management is of public interest, and it is certainly a far more creditable species of information than the peeps of Jenkins into the mysteries of fashionable life or the interviewing narratives of energetic correspondents. A New York letter in the Springfield (Mass.) *Republican*, evidently written by some one with excellent opportunities for acquiring information, gives an insight into the management and prosperity of the great dailies, from which we make up the annexed review of their present condition:

THE TRIBUNE.

The circulation of the daily is between thirty-four and five thousand, or a little more than the *Times*; the semi-weekly is about the same number, while the weekly is in the neighborhood of one hundred and twenty thousand copies, making a total of nearly two hundred thousand. The prosperity of the paper continues at its highest point. Three years since a dividend of 18 per cent. was declared, and large sums have been expended for new type-presses, etc., from the profits of the last year.

The *Tribune* property is worth, probably, at least a million dollars. This includes two or three hundred thousand dollars worth of real estate. No sales of shares have been made at the rate of over $2,000 or $800,000 for the whole; but it is not likely that any could be bought, now, at less than the rate of a million, and probably not much at that price. The scarcity of shares must have lately been made up, and the total profits expressed in dividends were $168,000, which is $1,680 on each share. There are 100 shares in the company, of which Mr. Sinnickt, the publisher, owns the largest amount, or twenty-one; Mr. Greeley, twelve; the estate of Mr. Stephen Clark, its late money editor, fourteen; Dr. J. C. Ayer, the Lowell medicine man, sixteen; the late Mr. Richardson's estate, five; Bayard Taylor, five; George Ripley, five; Mr. Rooker, foreman in the composing department, five; Mr. Runkle, who has just married Mr. Chatburn, two; Oliver Johnson of the *Independent*, one; Mr. Cleveland, brother-in-law of Mr. Greeley, one; two clerks, printers, one each; Mr. Smalley, the London correspondent, two; Solon Robinson, two; Mr. Holeman, a Kansas farmer, two; John Hooper, two; and B. F. Camp, two. Though the circulation of the paper is much less than it has been, its prosperity seems to be more assured, and so long as Mr. Greeley remains in health and vigor, everybody who owns *Tribune* stock owns "a good thing." Mr. Greeley now receives $10,000 a year salary, and Mr. Sinnickt, the publisher, an equal sum, while the pay of Mr. Ried, the managing editor, is $5,000.

The managing editor of the *Tribune* is Mr. Whitelaw Reid; but the editorials are generally young men, and their articles show rather the dash and exuberance of youth, than the calculation and deliberation usual to middle age. Among the regular staff are J. K. G. Hazard, formerly musical critic, and author of some of the wittiest and most sarcastic writing in the paper, including Admiral Porter's "Journal, and the editor of the "Authentic Man of the World; Charles T. Congdon, author of the late volume of "Tribune Essays," and who has contributed editorials to the *Tribune* for years, and is one of the best men in the house; Wm. Winter, the dramatic, and Edward House, the musical critic, Mr. Cleveland, Mr. Moore, city editor, and a number of promising young men, now holding subordinate positions. Among the occasional contributors, who write occasionally, are Mrs. L. G. Calhoun, who writes editorials and book reviews, as well as correspondence; Rev. O. B. Frothingham, K. Lempriere, T. W. Higginson, and Robert Dale Owen. The latter during the year the *Tribune* has gained much reputation by the letters of its unrivaled correspondent in Europe, who included such names as G. W. Smalley, Mrs. L. G. Calhoun, Clarence Cook, George Ripley, and Miss Bird, besides others less known to fame.

THE WORLD.

As the *Republican* correspondent writes, "attempts to be like the *Pall Mall Gazette* in Thackeray's famous novel, 'a gentleman's paper written by gentlemen,' but it has also to be added to the talent of the great unwashed Democracy, its columns present a divided allegiance to good taste and sensationalism. In its literary tone it maintains a high standard, and surpasses even the *Times* in the attention it gives to intellectual subjects, particularly scientific and social questions. Mr. Maguire is a man of culture, and aspires to keep the *World* up to the highest point of excellence. Though he seldom visits the editorial rooms of the paper, he has a private telegraph connecting them with his house, and exercises a general supervision over its policy and general tone. Most of the leaders he writes himself, the others being by Mr. Chamberlain, who is one of the closest, calmest, and most convincing writers on the press. But for its political unscrupulousness, the *World* would be a model newspaper. It is managed on the truest journalistic principles, and in the breath of its sympathies and force of its articles has but one rival--the *Tribune*."

The real circulation of the *World* is difficult to get at, but it is believed to be between fifteen and sixteen thousand, which is not more than half that of any other morning paper, excepting the *Times*. The *World* advertising patronage is poor. The publishers of other papers say its advertising rates are far below their own, and a large allowance is made upon them. Few copies of the paper are to be seen on the news stands in the city, and it is out of town it is popular, and has, to some extent, superseded the *Herald* in the rural districts. Mr. Maguire has lately built a fine house at an expense of $90,000, which certainly looks like prosperity.

Mr. D. G. Croly, the husband of "Jennie June," is the managing editor of the *World*. The staff is composed entirely of young men, with the exception of Mr. Chamberlain and Mr. Hulbert, who are both past the middle age. Mr. George Scuyler, who is one of the best editorial writers on the paper, is quite a young man, and may be known as a writer of forcible, incisive and somewhat pe lantic style, which resembles Mr. Hulbert's persiflage, but has a native force and originality all its own. Mr. Ripley, who has lately left the *World* to take a position in the *Evening Post*, is responsible for the half-suppressed nastiness which used to prevail in the former paper. Mr. St. Clair McKelway, late managing editor of the now defunct *Register*, was the author of the articles continually ringing the changes upon Grant's name, and is a clever writer. Mr. Jerome C. Hillard is now the Washington correspondent of the *World*, and excels as a caustic philippic against Massachusetts pauperism, and in doing genteel Jenkinsism, such as the late visit of Prince Arthur to Canada. He is tall and aristocratic looking, with coal-black hair and moustache, and is very haughty and reserved in his bearing. He has a fund of real and the witty personal items of the *World*, but they are usually compiled by Mr. Winter, of *Vanity Fair*. Mr. Wheeler, the dramatic critic, is second only to Mr. Winter, of the *Tribune*, in ability.

THE SUN.

The *Sun* claims six thousand circulation, or more than the united circulation of all the other morning dailies. Its present aim is to reach 200,000. It exerts a tremendous influence, and is conducted with undiminished brilliancy and liveliness. Its leading principle is brevity, and after the French style, to be anything rather than dull. In pursuit of this end it is constantly sensational and occasionally malicious, as in the case of Corbin, and the John Russell Young and Richardson affairs. It has, however, set an example of freshness and liveliness which has affected the entire metropolitan press. Its editorials are models of simplicity and directness, and show remarkable skill in what the country parson calls "the art of putting things." Some specimens of them are by Mr. Dana himself, but the regular editorial writers are Mr. Bartlett, Henry D. Stanton and Mr. Hitchcock. The former of these gentlemen has been many time, managing editor of the *Evening Post*, and is now a lawyer in good practice, and confidential adviser of Robert Bonner. In the opinion of experts he is the most newspaper writer in the city, from the fact that his meaning is always clear. His articles are always to be recognized by being cut up into short paragraphs, so as to catch the eye of the reader, and they are full of pointed and witty allusions, combined with a bantering and ironical tone, which is very amusing. Mr. D. Stanton, the husband of Elizabeth Cady Stanton, is also a lawyer, and was formerly a contributor to the *Tribune*. He is well informed in all the details of local and state politics, and is a good writer. Most of the long editorial articles in the *Sun*, particularly those of a politico-his orical character, are from his pen. He has also written on general subjects. Mr. Hitchcock is one of the regular staff of the paper, and is a gentleman of high culture, and a prominent member of the Swedenborgian church. He is an intimate friend of Mr. Dana's, and writes all the editorials on miscellaneous subjects. The office management is entrusted to Mr. Amos B. Cummings, formerly city editor of the *Tribune* under J. R. Young, who is an extremely sensational writer, and has engrafted that feature upon every department of the paper. It is not improbable that its circulation has increased, but its reputation for truthfulness has thus been lessened, diminished, and people are getting to have little confidence in its statements. The high editor of the *Sun*, Charles A. Wood, is a character in his way, and is one of our oldest journalists. He writes the occasional headlines to the articles, some of which, like "Sparks from the telegraph," "Dashes here and there" in our reporters," are not inappropriate, and he has received the title of "The Great American Condenser," on account of his meritorious habit of abbreviating everything.

The editorial rooms of the *Sun* have long been a centre of rendezvous for local politicians and journalists generally, who have been attracted by the engaging manners of Mr. Dana, and also by the opportunities for gaining information which are there afforded. Until within a short time, no place of the kind in the city presented a more sociable appearance, and the hospitalities of the paper, and Mr. Dana's other personal and political friends, were constantly to be seen in his private room, among whom were Marshall O. Roberts, Col. Frederick Conkling, Gen. Hiram Walbridge, Mr. Blunt, Oliver Dyer, author of the "Wickedest Man," and others.

Mr. Dana differs from every other editor-in-chief in the city, in respect to the amount of personal attention which he gives to the details of his paper. Mr. Greeley is not seen in the *Tribune* editorial rooms once in a year; Mr. Marble never enters the *World* office at all; James Gordon Bennett has retired from the active supervision of the *Herald*, and the late Mr. Raymond, though a hard worker, was content to issue his directions through his associate-in-command, and had but little intercourse with his subordinates. Mr. Dana, however, is the soul and brains of the *Sun*; he is on the most familiar terms with his associates, and there is an utter absence of constraint or formality in his intercourse with them. He is peculiarly affable and winning, enjoys a joke, and is willing to accept a suggestion or an idea from any one, however humble. Frequently, when engaged in conversation, a thought will be suggested to him by something that is said, and he will instantly dictate a paragraph bearing upon it, and many of his best ideas are thus originated. He is quick to seize a good thing, and he has also a remarkable suggestive power himself, which is one of the secrets of his maintaining so brilliant and spicy a tone in the *Sun*, that "continues to shine" with undiminished lustre, and is admitted by all to be the most entertaining paper in the city.

THE TIMES.

This journal is set down very correctly as "respectable but heavy." It is conducted on rather an original method. The proprietor, Mr. Jones, directs its general affairs and policy, while the editorial staff is divided into three divisions, editorial, political and city, each of which is independent of the other, and subject only to Mr. Jones's supervision. The editorial page is in charge of Mr. George Sheppard, who is an Englishman by birth, was connected with the Canadian press for some time, and since Mr. Raymond's death, has been the principal writer on American politics. His chief associates are Mr. E. D. Webster and Mr. Louis Jennings, former correspondent of the London *Times*, and husband of Miss Madeline Hennings, the actress, who is now playing at Wallack's theater. The political department, which includes general news, is in charge of Mr. Bacon, and the city department is directed by Robert Sinclair, a young man of ability and promise, who has risen by regular upon the *Times*, and has worked his way up to his present position. Mr. W. Rossiter, also of the late editor, has begun his apprenticeship as a reporter under Mr. Sinclair's direction.

The most remarkable member of the *Times* staff is Miss Minnie Morgan, who fills the position of cattle reporter and agricultural editor. She is of Irish descent, and is a thorough horsewoman. She had charge of Victor Emanuel's blood horses for a long time, and was commissioned to buy his horses. Mr. George P. Marsh, the American Minister in Italy, gave her a letter of introduction to Mr. Bigelow, who at once appointed her to her present position, which she has filled to general satisfaction. Miss Morgan is extremely tall for a woman, and has been jokingly nicknamed "the Grenadier." She has every appearance of health and vitality, and has all the liveliness and humor of her countrymen. She is well multilingual, speaks several languages, and in many respects is a superior woman. She has been received by members of Congress generally with cordiality, and by her example may lead to other women adopting the profession of journalism.

The *Times* is a valuable property, and it has a good university patronage, which is unequaled in its legal department and is taken by almost every lawyer. It is also a favorite with conservative and sober-minded people who do not like sensationalism, but who prefer a plain statement of fact, without garniture or display. Its circulation was much affected by Mr. Bigelow's mismanagement, and is now less than thirty thousand; some persons even declare that it is not over twenty thousand.

THE HERALD.

Is quite an Ishmaelite--its hand against everybody and everybody's hand against it. Mr. Bennett holds himself aloof from the society of other editors, and has even compelled Mr. Belden, on pain of immediate dismissal, from joining any association of journalists. They have an organization of their own, which holds an annual dinner, which took place for the first time, managing editor of the *Evening Post*, and is now a lawyer in good practice, and confidential adviser of Robert Bonner. In the opinion of experts he is the most newspaper writer in the city, from the fact that his meaning is always clear. His articles are always to be recognized by being cut up into short paragraphs, so as to catch the eye of the reader, and they are full of pointed and witty allusions, combined with a bantering and ironical tone, which is very amusing. Mr. D. Stanton, the husband of Elizabeth Cady Stanton, is also a lawyer, and was formerly a contributor to the *Tribune*. He is well informed in all the details of local and state politics, and is a good writer. Most of the long editorial articles in the *Sun*, particularly those of a politico-his orical character, are from his pen. He has also written on general subjects. Mr. Hitchcock is one of the regular staff of the paper, and is a gentleman of high culture, and a prominent member of the Swedenborgian church. He is an intimate friend of Mr. Dana's, and writes all the editorials on miscellaneous subjects. The office management is entrusted to Mr. Amos B. Cummings, formerly city editor of the *Tribune* under J. R. Young, who is an extremely sensational writer, and has engrafted that feature upon every department of the paper. It is not improbable that its circulation has increased, but its reputation for truthfulness has thus been lessened, diminished, and people are getting to have little confidence in its statements. The high editor of the *Sun*, Charles A. Wood, is a character in his way, and is one of our oldest journalists. He writes the occasional headlines to the articles, some of which, like "Sparks from the telegraph," "Dashes here and there in our reporters," are not inappropriate, and he has received the title of "The Great American Condenser," on account of his meritorious habit of abbreviating everything.

The editorial rooms of the *Sun* have long been a centre of rendezvous for local politicians and journalists generally, who have been attracted by the engaging manners of Mr. Dana, and also by the opportunities for gaining information which are there afforded. Until within a short time, no place of the kind in the city presented a more sociable appearance, and the hospitalities of the paper, and Mr. Dana's other personal and political friends, were constantly to be seen in his private room, among whom were Marshall O. Roberts, Col. Frederick Conkling, Gen. Hiram Walbridge, Mr. Blunt, Oliver Dyer, author of the "Wickedest Man," and others.

Mr. Dana differs from every other editor-in-chief in the city, in respect to the amount of personal attention which he gives to the details of his paper. Mr. Greeley is not seen in the *Tribune* editorial rooms once in a year; Mr. Marble never enters the *World* office at all; James Gordon Bennett has retired from the active supervision of the *Herald*, and the late Mr. Raymond, though a hard worker, was content to issue his directions through his associate-in-command, and had but little intercourse with his subordinates. Mr. Dana, however, is the soul and brains of the *Sun*; he is on the most familiar terms with his associates, and there is an utter absence of constraint or formality in his intercourse with them. He is peculiarly affable and winning, enjoys a joke, and is willing to accept a suggestion or an idea from any one, however humble. Frequently, when engaged in conversation, a thought will be suggested to him

MR. WELLS AND HIS FIGURES.

Their Bogus Character--Deception of the Commissioner.

Speech of the Hon. John Scott IN THE UNITED STATES SENATE.

* * * * * * * * *

Having now spoken with regard to the manner in which the Bureau of Statistics has been managed, I come to the point which was involved in the resolution of inquiry offered by me. Before doing that, however, permit me to say that there was enough in the conduct of the Special Commissioner of the Revenue to start inquiry in the minds of the manufacturers about the special statements made in his annual reports from 1867 to 1869. In 1867, in such a report, on pages 64 and 65 of which his views were given with reference to the theory upon which the Government ought to proceed, I entered in regard to manufactures; and I quote his words on that occasion, that I may do him no injustice. Speaking on the subject of railway iron, one intimately connected with the subject of pig iron, about which, my colleagues will recollect, he said, on page 64 of his report for 1867:

"In respect to railroad iron the Commissioner would recommend that the existing tariff of seventy cents per one hundred pounds remain unchanged. While recognizing, as a cardinal feature of American legislation, the doctrine of protection to home industry, it is clear that the same doctrine should be made subordinate to the great fundamental principle of every Democratic form of government, namely, that legislation should always be in the direct interest of the greatest good to the greatest number."

We have him in 1867 recognizing as a cardinal doctrine that of protection to home industry. In 1868 we find that some change has come over the impression of the Special Commissioner of the Revenue; for, according to my recollection, he then begins to take the ground that the theories of protection and free trade are entirely indifferent; that it matters not which of them may be adopted in order to settle affairs of the country; that its interests are independent of legislation. After having recommended the tariff in 1867, in one short year he brings himself to this conclusion, which I read from his report of 1868:

"Thus, under the influence of an almost prohibitory tariff, the business of manufacturing pig-iron enjoys a high degree of prosperity, and increases continue to be multiplied; but if the community at large was been compelled to pay an unnecessary profit of from seven to ten dollars per ton on a present annual product of one million five hundred thousand tons, and has therefore been subjected during the past year to a tax of from five to fifteen millions of dollars, the prosperity of the pig-iron manufacturing interest is a question of but little moment to it is worth."

Nothing in the report of 1868 he insti tutes a comparison between the well-paid labor of the American pig-iron, Welsh pig-iron being almost unknown in our market, not imported in this country in any considerable extent. Scotch pig-iron is the largest import, and the one with which it would be proper to make the comparison; but he speaks in 1868 of this "prohibitory tariff," in the face of the statistics coming from his own bureau. The report of 1867 shows the quantity of pig iron there were imported in 1868 $1,778,257 worth of pig iron; in 1869 $2,171,869 worth; and that in two years the country was flooded under the prohibitory tariff. In 1866 there were imported of bar iron $2,906,221 worth; and in 1867 and in 1868 of rails there were imported $4,781,577 worth, and in 1869 $7,286,066 and all this with a sanctified tariff in operation! On page 65 of his report of 1868 as being prohibitory, and yet there were imported in two years the enormous of millions of dollars in value and the import steadily increasing.

These figures I have taken from his own reports. Now, by referring to a report made to the British Parliament of 1867, I find with reference to this specific article of pig iron, in the article of rails, the following statistics: In 1864 there were 127,984 tons, and in 1866 96,073 tons, and in 1867 131,000 tons. For the eleven month ending 30th November of the present year (1869) there were 176,215 tons; in 1868 278,096 tons; and in 1869 it was 297,000 tons.

Now, sir, the results of this tariff, called by the Special Commissioner prohibitory, in 1868 a prohibitory tariff, are beginning to be apparent. I have upon my desk a statement that a manufacturer in the city of Pittsburgh, in the city, Pennsylvania, one of the largest in the Union, has stopped for want of work. I have here a paper published at Johnstown, Pennsylvania, one of the largest manufacture of railway iron in the United States, stating that the rail-mill of that establishment had been shut down for months, and that under this tariff is beginning to be apparent. Is it wonderful that the iron-masters of Pennsylvania should begin to direct an inquiry as to where the statistics had come from, which led them to the idea that the man utilized protection as a cardinal doctrine in 1867 comes forward in 1868 upon page 64 of his report, for the present year, makes this statement, in which he says he accuses:

"And in respect to those investigations, commenced under the revenue commission in 1865 and continued until the end of 1869, I submit the Commissioner claims the privilege to assert that he has devoted himself with the most conscientiously to discharge the duties of his office, has sought to find the truth, and to speak that only which has seemed to him to be for the best interests of the whole country. He is well aware that the value of the views and recommendations which have been forced upon him by the investigations has brought him in antagonism to many with whom he was formerly on friendly terms, and I looking

Thus we find the Commissioner himself, coming forward to vindicate himself to the country for having assumed the position of antagonistic to that which he occupied when he first commenced making statements from his department instead of from the facts. There was one of them given with very great sagacity. The statement is that in less than twenty-four hours after this report was delivered in the Senate, the Commissioner was called upon by a gentleman of Pennsylvania "who furnished him with the most valuable information as to the meaning of the following paragraph in his reference to the strong political reasons for a change."

I had the same day received a letter from a friend in Washington containing the following statement: "Personally and officially you were strong with the President and Attorney General, but the chances of political infidelity were made--that you had bargained with A. J. to support him and take a Democrat into office." Upon the 27th of January, 1869, I addressed to the President a letter, of which the following agreement was entered into between Mr. Moore and myself. The following agreement was proposed by me and accepted by Mr. Moore, and the following memorandum was prepared by Mr. Moore and is in his handwriting. The following is a literal copy:

This indenture, made this 7th day of December, A. D. 1868, between Wm. D. Moore, of the city of Pittsburgh, and Wm. D. Moore, Esq., of the city of Washington, D. C., witnesseth: That in consideration of the discharge of one-half of the duties of the office of Collector of Internal Revenue of the United States, for the Western District of Pennsylvania, by the said Wm. D. Moore, the said Wm. D. Moore hereby agrees to appoint the said Wm. D. Moore, or his nominee, to the office of Assistant Assessor, and in consideration of said duties by him, the said Wm. D. Moore, he, the said Wm. D. Moore, agrees to pay him one-half the emoluments and fees which belong to the office of Assistant Assessor, which belong to the office of Assistant Assessor, while he shall faithfully perform the duties of said office, and receive a salary of $2,000 per annum, and no more, and to pay said sum of $2,000 quarterly, as the same is now paid to the Assistant Assessors, and to pay him one-half of the emoluments and fees which shall be received by the

Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 1870.

PITTSBURGH

COMMERCIAL.

DAILY AND WEEKLY.

1870.

As a thorough newspaper, sparing neither labor nor expense to furnish the fullest and most reliable intelligence; as the fearless, consistent, and persistent opponent of corruption in office and advocate of Honesty, Economy, Retrenchment and Reform in public affairs; as the sworn foe of "Rings" and every description of dishonest combination,—just as ready to expose their practices in the Republican as Democratic party, and even more so, because it holds those in power that will cast out offenders of this description entitles itself to the confidence of the people—as an Independent Republican paper, the advocate of the rights and interests of the people,—THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL needs no new introduction to, the reading public.

IT IS A PROGRESSIVE PAPER,

And keeps up in the march of improvement and the development of ideas. Thoroughly alive to everything that is valuable or interesting, it identifies itself at once and heartily with whatever seems calculated to improve mankind and elevate the standard of intelligence and morality. As a Republican journal of the strictest sect, it deals with political questions with an earnest wish to get at the truth and place only good and capable men in office.

IT IS A PEOPLE'S PAPER,

And relies on their support and good opinion rather than the favors of politicians. Nor has it done so in vain. Its independent course—more especially in its denouncing legislative corruption and exposing the practices of thieves in office—has made it the favorite of the masses and the feared of dishonest aspirants and debauched party leaders. Of the reputation it has earned in this respect it is sincerely proud; and it wishes no different standing in the field of journalism in this regard than a discriminating public may accord to it. To public and faithful to their confidence and good opinion will be its constant endeavor.

IT IS A LIVE PAPER,

And ranks with the leading journals which are thoroughly awake to all that is going on. Its News Department is always fresh and full. Its editorials are written with a purpose in view. Its Market Reports and Commercial News gatherings are meant to supply the most exacting demands of the business public.

IT IS A PROSPEROUS AND GROWING PAPER,

Having from the start gone ahead, outstripping older occupants of the field of journalism; and it has attained to a position which enables it to exert an influence second to no paper in the State. That it has fairly won the right to be the first paper in Pennsylvania is the verdict of its newspaper readers in general.

IT IS A PAPER OF INFLUENCE,

It has a larger real circulation than any other Pittsburgh paper by the business, professional and thinking classes. It is always found where the latest and fullest news is sought, and an independent paper prized,—in Banking Rooms, Counting Rooms and the Family Circle, where it is welcomed as a business and intellectual necessity, and where its influence is constant and increasing.

ITS PAST COURSE IS ITS BEST RECOMMENDATION,

And it is felt that there is no necessity for indulging in new professions or making fresh promises. It means, nothing more nor less than a standard in politics and morals, to improve as it progresses, and omit nothing that will add to its strength or increase its usefulness.

THE NEXT YEAR.

THE COMMERCIAL enters on another year strong and hopeful, and with a deliberate purpose consistent with what has been said above. And it does not hesitate to ask the co-operation of all who approve of that purpose. No hesitation is felt in saying that it desires this support in increasing its circulation and enlarging the sphere of its usefulness. The season is at hand when Congress, and the Legislature will be in session, and stirring events at both the National and State Capitals are transpiring. The measures of the splendid administration of General Grant will soon be before the country—embracing questions of the deepest interest to every reader and tax-payer. Legislation, too, will present matters of interest. Abroad, the signs are animating; and at home in the field of politics, popular movements relating to education and religious questions are appearing, of which no one should remain in doubt, to be ignorant, and concerning which all that is essential to be known will be the aim of the COMMERCIAL to give.

TERMS.

Daily paper, $10 per year; $5 for six months; $2 50 for three months.

The Weekly Commercial

IS A

Large 36 Column Newspaper,

CONTAINING FEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

Its Ample Columns contain a complete compendium of the NEWS OF THE WEEK, the Leading Editorials from the Daily, and all the

FOREIGN AND HOME MARKETS,

Carefully Reported and Corrected expressly for the WEEKLY up to the date of each issue.

IT IS EMPHATICALLY A

FAMILY NEWSPAPER.

TERMS:—$2 00 per year (invariably in advance). In Clubs of Twenty, $1 50 each. Specimens sent free. Send for Catalogue containing List of Premiums, &c.

In making remittances for subscriptions, always procure a Draft on Pittsburgh, or a *Postoffice Money Order*, if possible. When neither of these can be obtained, send the money, *but always in a* REGISTERED *letter*. The registration fee has been reduced to *fifteen cents*, and the present registration system has been found by the postal authorities to be virtually an absolute protection against losses by mail. *All* Postmasters are obliged to register letters whenever requested to do so.

Address, THE COMMERCIAL,
Pittsburgh, Penna.

THE UNEXPENDED BALANCE QUESTION.

We estimate the number of bills in the Legislature treating the unexpended balance and State Treasurer question at something above a dozen, which, as we count as a good sign. It proves how overwhelming public sentiment is, and how successful have been the efforts—in which without immodesty we can claim some share—in behalf of reform in this particular. We cannot say that we have seen all the bills on this subject. We can say, however, that those that we have seen have some good features. But the one which strikes us as simplest and at the same time most direct, is the bill introduced by Senator BILLINGFELT, which is as follows:

An Act for the more speedy redemption of the debt of the Commonwealth.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, in General Assembly met, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same:* That it shall be the duty of the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund, on the first Monday of July next, and in every month thereafter, to receive sealed proposals for the purchase of such portion of the loan of this Commonwealth next becoming due, and on the first Tuesday of each month thereafter to meet and open such proposals and award to the bidders all or such proportions of said bids and at such rates as can be paid with the least loss to the commonwealth or as the condition of the treasury present or prospective may require.

SEC. 2. That on the first day of August next, and on the first day of each month thereafter, the said Commissioners shall furnish for publication in one newspaper each, in the cities of Philadelphia and Pittsburgh, a statement showing the sum and the whole amount of loan redeemed, with such other information as they may deem proper for the information of the public.

SEC. 3. That a record of the proceedings of the said commissioners shall be kept, and all proposals shall remain on file, properly indorsed, in the office of the State Treasurer, and included in the report now required to be made to the Legislature by the said commissioners, and that they be required to report all offers made for the redemption of loans, and whether the same were rejected or accepted by them.

Now the cause of the evils complained of is the money. This Senator BILLINGFELT'S bill removes entirely out of the way and secures to the State all the benefits possible to flow from it. The unexpended balance would disappear from sight and use and the bone of contention be taken away. It would remain, however, for the Legislature to fix the salary of the Treasurer in some proper amount and increase his bail.

THE BIBLE AND THE SCHOOLS.

The Cincinnati school question has never been regarded as a merely local question. The first discussions to which the subject gave rise were shared in by the whole country, the steps taken for the arrangement of the dispute have been watched with anxiety by all good citizens, and the final settlement will be everywhere received with marked satisfaction or dissatisfaction. In Cincinnati principles and precedents will be established certain to exert a decided, if not a overwhelming influence upon our entire common school system. Though not finally settled, the question has been advanced a step on the way towards settlement by the decision of the Superior Court, published in our paper of yesterday. The Court, by declaring perpetual the injunction which they were asked to set aside, render a decision in favor of the use of the Bible in the public schools. Judge TAFT dissented from the opinion of a majority of the Court, and the case will be carried up to the Supreme Court.

Throughout the country we suppose this decision will be heard of with approval by a large majority of the people. The Book of which the use is objected to, quite apart from its supernatural origin and religious purposes, is a venerable monument of our language. A considerable acquaintance with it is essential to even a moderately good education. No person can be said to possess a decent knowledge of his own language, if his reading has been entirely and exclusively in the books of his own century. And with reference to this philological advantage, no other English volume is so rich as a source of the language, or so well adapted to school purposes as the King JAMES Bible. All the sects, except one, approve its use, and even well informed Infidels would not desire their children to grow up in ignorance of a book which has so powerfully influenced English literature in all its departments. On the other hand, the clamor against the employment of the volume in schools is inspired by the most bigoted and exclusive sectarianism. The clamor is also avowedly merely the beginning of an agitation of which the object is to abolish our school system altogether.

The people may as well understand the matter at once. No education not rigorously popish, no schools not under priestly supervision and control will ever satisfy the sect who are keeping up such an ado about the Bible in the schools. As it is absolutely certain that nothing will be gained by the concession, why make it? If by the concession demanded, all our people, Catholic and Protestant, could be united in support of the school system, many earnest Protestants would, no doubt, be willing to make it. But since we know that the withdrawal of the Bible would produce no such result, why destroy the prestige of the schools in the estimation of multitudes of Protestants by weakly yielding to prejudices generated by a religious and political system antagonistic to our free institutions? Why lessen the aggregate opinion in favor of the schools with no prospect of increasing the number of their friends?

THE GREATEST SCHEME OF PLUNDER YET.

There are legislators who esteem it the highest privilege of their position to vote away the people's money in the Treasury. If there is none there, they are willing to borrow on the credit of the State, so that they may give full play to their generosity. An example of this is just now pending in the House of Representatives of this State in the form of a bill authorizing the payment of damages sustained by citizens of "Pennsylvania during the war of the rebellion, and providing means therefor." It is to meet the cases of citizens of York, Perry, Cumberland, Franklin, Adams, Bedford and Fulton counties for damages alleged to have been sustained by the movements of Union and rebel armies through their respective localities, preceding and after the battle of Gettysburg. The proposition is an "old soldier," and has been marched and countermarched about the State capital at every session since 1863.

The bill was printed in yesterday's COMMERCIAL. It is prefaced by a preamble which holds the general government responsible for indemnity for the alleged damages, but declares that in the meantime it is the duty of the State to pay the claims. This is the long and short of the preamble. It admits that the United States does not recognize its liability, and holds that the State must step in and disburse from its treasury the required millions. It is not necessary to examine into the theories of protection and allegiance ingeniously interwoven to give a color of plausibility to the scheme. The fact that the claims have not been presented to the United States, examined or approved by it, is sufficient to explode the idea that the Commonwealth should eagerly rush forward and foot the bill. The general government is the power, it is held by the ring pushing this matter, primarily responsible, yet they say the State is to pay whatever claims they may set up, and then look to Washington for reimbursement. The notion is absurd.

When we examine the details of the bill, we are almost dumbfounded by the gigantic swindle contemplated, and the unblushing means by which it is sought to be accomplished. It is no ordinary scheme of robbery. It goes at the Treasury and the tax payers with a greed that almost passes belief. In the first place, there is to be paid out of the State Treasury, to the claimants, on the 15th of March ensuing, $500,000. Calculating that the Treasury would be emptied by this first dash, provision is made for a six per cent. loan to be negotiated on the first of June, for $750,000, "the proceeds of the whole of the loan, including premiums," to be applied to the claims. This makes $1,350,000. Giving the Treasury a rest, then, until December 1870, another foray on it is provided for amounting to $300,000 more. Then follows this clause to which we invite special attention as embodying a contemplated system of robbery unprecedented in this or any other State. After appropriating the $300,000 referred to for December, 1870, the bill says "the Treasurer is authorized to pay upon the "claims aforesaid, out of any moneys in the "Treasury * * * *Three hundred thousand dollars in June and December each of the years thereafter*, UNTIL THE WHOLE AMOUNT OF SAID CLAIMS HAVE BEEN PAID!"

Does not this take away one's breath? Over a million and a half is appropriated for specified periods, and then to climax the effrontery of these robbers, the vaults of the Treasury are flung open, and six hundred thousand dollars a year dished out, "until the whole amount of said claims have been paid." There is no use commenting on this proposition. It stands alone in the history of legislation.

When we examine into the ways and means by which this money is to be disbursed to the unfortunates of the half dozen counties named, we are again moved to admiration. Two Commissioners in each county are designated, making in all a Board of ten Commissioners, who are authorized to "examine and approve" the claims, and on their approval the claimant walks into the treasury and helps himself. These Commissioners will not, of course, audit the claims, according to any settled principles of law. No care is taken that the Commonwealth shall be represented at their sessions. The Commissioners—every one of them, we feel assured—are interested in the claims, and in their adjudication will be governed by the rule that whatever helps Number Two will be a good thing for Number One.

Then, when millions have been paid out of the treasury, under the awards of these commissioners, the State, gathering up the loose odds and ends of its records, is to present itself to Congress in the expectation that the United States will at once reimburse our State treasury for the outlay. The proposition will be hooted, as it will deserve to be, from the national capital.

Yet this abominable scheme, whose salient features we have briefly discussed, has a large body of supporters in the Legislature, and they are aided by a tremendous lobby influence. On a vote on Monday, it would seem that a majority of the House favored the swindle. How the vote will stand on a final test we do not care to venture a prediction. The worst influences that can surround the Legislature are embarked in its advocacy. Bribery will be resorted to of the most extensive character. The claims for several years have been objects of speculation in the border counties, and have gradually drifted into the hands of a few speculators at a nominal price, or at a valuation contingent on the passage of the bill. Of whatever sum may be appropriated, not a tithe will find its way into the hands of the *bona fide* claimants. A private letter to the editor of this paper from Harrisburg, dated on Monday, from a gentleman of reliability and experience, says of the scheme and its promoters: "The greatest swindle of the year is to be "offered in the House to-night. Bribery is "now at work to set it up, and members "are approached with the impudence of the "devil, with offers of money to vote for it. "It is the bill to pay for damages *two millions* of dollars for raids on our borders "during the rebellion. It is a perfect swindle, and I firmly believe if it passes one-half will never go to the people interested. "This is no place for these claims. If the "Government should pay at all, they should "go to the United States Government. It "is her own business."

We want the ayes and noes and absentees on every vote at every stage of this bill. Outside of the counties interested, we are anxious to get the name of every member who shall countenance by his vote or his absence the consummation of this the greatest villainy in the history of Pennsylvania legislation.

FAILURE OF THE COUNCIL.

The utter failure of the great Council to accomplish the chief objects for which it was called together becomes more manifest every day. To influence the Eastern Churches in the direction of reunion in the fold of Rome, to impart to the syllabus the sanction of the Catholic world, and especially to have the dogma of the Pope's personal infallibility proclaimed without discussion and through an immediate divine *afflatus*, these were universally understood to be the cherished results hoped for from the grand assembly. Alas, the vanity of even Papal hopes in this world! Among cable dispatches in our paper of Thursday was one from Rome making mention of an important step taken by the Armenians. The Armenian Church, one of the four communions forming the great schismatic Church of the East, have rejected the authority of their Patriarch, because they believed him unable to resist the encroachments of the Pope. Though denounced by Rome as schismatics, and not as heretics, the Armenians have for centuries entertained for the Pope of Rome a hatred, compared with which Protestant hatred is love. They are still true to the conviction that "the roots of Ararat are deeper than those of Rome." Another dispatch informs us that the Protest of Austria and other Catholic powers against the Syllabus has been transmitted to the Council. It is, we suppose, hardly to be doubted that such a remonstrance will be respected.

In regard to the proposed declaration of infallibility, the hostility of large numbers of the bishops to the measure has become so pronounced that even Protestant sojourners in the Holy City are able to report the speeches denunciatory of it made outside of the Council by eminent ecclesiastics. A few days ago a distinguished French prelate said, in the presence of a correspondent, "the dogma of the infallibility of the Pope cannot be forced upon France, though forty Councils should support it." This prelate was not DUPANLOUP. The same prelate went on to declare that, "in his opinion, the proclamation of Papal infallibility would lead, and that very speedily, to an attempt at affecting the whole foreign policy of France by a clerical crusade against the existing state of things in Italy." Abundant indications are almost daily appearing that the autonomy of the French ecclesiastical system and the liberties of the Gallican church are still precious to the ablest bishops of that nation. These rights and privileges maintained with such vast ability and learning through so many centuries, do not seem likely to be surrendered now. It is mortifying to learn that a majority of the American bishops, who, in virtue of their political relations, ought to have shone as the champions of the utmost freedom compatible with their office, are earnest supporters of ultramontanism. The fact is surely significant, and its meaning will probably not be overlooked by thoughtful republicans, either here or in Europe.

PHASES OF RECONSTRUCTION.

The debates in the Senate on the Virginia bill have been substantially repeated on the Mississippi bill. The practical question discussed is as to the power of Congress to impose fundamental conditions on a State, and enforce them after its admission to representation. On this important point a serious division has arisen in the Republican ranks in Congress. A majority of the Republicans of both the Senate and House, doubtless believe in the possession and the exercise of this power by Congress, whenever the occasion may arise. But there is a strong minority of the party that radically dissents, and maintains the ground that no control can be exercised by Congress over the States except under such powers as are specifically conceded by the Constitution. As a consequence, the minority holds that the conditions imposed upon Virginia are worthless. In the House, the Virginia bill, pure and simple, without any conditions, was passed by a union of Democrats and Republicans, but when it went to the Senate the conditions were attached by a majority in the House agreed to the amended bill to get it out of the way. The same questions are now before Congress on the bill admitting Mississippi. The anti-conditionists have been reinforced by the two Virginia Senators, and the question whether Mississippi shall come in without any fundamental conditions was to have been decided in the Senate yesterday. The vote will be close, but the conditions will probably be carried, as a number of Senators who originally opposed their application to Virginia, take the position that all the reinstated States should be treated alike. They therefore will vote to anex them to the Mississippi bill, although they are on the record against the principle.

It is possible that out of this question of the power of Congress over the reconstructed States grave complications may arise in the future which will endanger the unity of the Republican party. The differences on the subject are radical and well defined. On the one side we have such men as MORTON, SUMNER, DRAKE and HOWE, and on the other in opposition to the power, CARPENTER, TRUMBULL, CONKLING, SCOTT and SHERMAN, and in the House BINGHAM, LOGAN, FARNSWORTH and others. There are strong men enlisted in behalf of both theories, and the principles involved have been at the foundation of political differences in this country since the Constitution was framed, and parties took their rise under it.

In the Senate on Monday last the question was debated on the Mississippi bill. Senator CARPENTER, of Wisconsin, argued that the imposition of fundamental conditions upon a State was a dangerous heresy. He said:

> Congress might continue Mississippi as a Territory or admit the State to representation, but could not treat her as in both capacities at the same time. When the admission of her Senators or Representatives to the Congress of the United States, no further Congressional control could only be exercised under the Constitution. Similar grounds were taken by the Senator from Indiana (Mr. MORTON,) that the supervision of Congress over a State continued after its admission as a state, was a fallacy whose dangers could not be overestimated. To allow the evil consequences necessarily resulting from such a doctrine, he referred to the probability of a Democratic majority in the Senate ten years hence in repealing those conditions and upholding the reconstruction acts that in the opinion of Congress they are necessary, in two-thirds of the States, to secure republican conditions upon Massachusetts and other New England States. This argument was largely in accordance with the precedent now established. Mr. CARPENTER implored his Republican colleagues not to insist upon conditions which would never stand the test of the constitution. Referring to changes of condition with which Congress had to deal, he said the case was likened to the jury formula entitled to consider it—the Republican party.

Senator MORTON, of Indiana, was the principal speaker in opposition to Senator CARPENTER, although Governor YATES, of Illinois, interposed some remarks about CARPENTER advocating the old theories of secession, and charged him with rebellion against party discipline. The Illinois Senator was slightly "undisposed," and his remarks possess no value. Governor MORTON, however, spoke earnestly, and with his usual force of reasoning. He claimed that the doctrine advanced by Senator CARPENTER was the old States rights doctrine, and concluded as follows:

> In reply to what the Senator from Virginia had said about his having fought his grave, he (Morton) only remarked that the unanimity of all in a doctrine was enough to make the dry bones of Calhoun rattle with joy. The Senator had suffered by Congress the power to preserve a republican government in a State, but Congress had the power to add until it was destroyed. Was the Republican party willing to abandon that principle? He thought not. He believed that the party stood squarely upon the other doctrine that Congress had the constitutional power to preserve. He opened the assumption upon which the doctrine laid upon this subject were based that in securing a republican form of government in the State it was essential that the means should be uniform in every case. Congress was to be the judge, not only of the means but of their method of application. In a State where the people could not read or write what better guarantee of a republican government than the general education of the people? He would tell Gov. Walker, of Virginia, who had recently asserted that the power of Congress over that state had been exhausted, that he was mistaken; that Congress had the power to prevent the violation of the conditions upon which Virginia had been restored.

Thus the question stands. We have directed particular attention to the debate, because its important points were swallowed up in the routine of congressional reports. Just now, in some respects, the discussion seems to be idle theorizing based on the possibilities of the future, but these possibilities may become actualities, and vital, living political questions.

UNIFORM TIME.

We invite the attention of our readers to the article on a Uniform Time, which is completed in our columns this morning. Our correspondent writes on a subject of general interest, and the end proposed is certainly desirable and seems to be easily reached.

It is only needed, as he remarks, that the custom which necessity suggests to a suburban resident of setting his watch by the city time should be followed by the city itself, our railways and the whole country, with reference to a common standard, at some central point.

We should suppose no better place could be chosen than Pittsburgh itself, which is nearly central between the eastern railroad termini, and the Mississippi, which is at the center of telegraph lines radiating along the great roads which link us to East and West, and has a well equipped observatory in the immediate neighborhood; but setting aside our local claims there seems to need only the concurrence of our leading railway directors to our getting one time the country over. The railways have more to gain by the change than any body, and some action is, we hear, already being taken in the matter by Western roads, which talk of uniting on Chicago time as a common basis. In Chicago, as we see by their papers, the City Council has been discussing the advantage of substituting for the present irregular plan of a watchman to strike on the city bell the time supplied by a neighboring jeweller, that of having the bells struck automatically by the astronomical clock in the Dearborn observatory, somewhat after the plan our correspondent mentions as used in London, and which he might have added is being generally introduced in European cities.

We were told of a discussion that rose sometime since, at one of our banks, as to whether some directors were late at an appointed meeting. To settle a dispute, in which each was sure his watch was right by some "regulator," a messenger was sent round to the different jewellers with a good watch and instructions to compare their time with each other. The discrepancy was found to be in the regulators, which varied, in extreme cases, nearly a quarter of an hour. This was some time ago, but if it is still true that no two of these agree well with each other, it is not fairly chargeable to the jewellers, nor to their clocks, of which many have the best of their kind, but to the want of a standard which all could use on an equal footing. The time is probably struck on our bells as well as it can be done under the present system, but jewellers here or elsewhere have probably no disposition to concede superior accuracy to the one who supplies time to the city by adopting his in place of their own.

The agreement to unite in using any independent common standard might easily be made by the trade, and we should gladly see it done as a small but essential addition to the public convenience.

JOHNSON AND GRANT.

Secretary BOUTWELL, in a letter to Senator CRAGIN, of New Hampshire, replies to some ill-natured criticisms made on the monthly statements of the Treasury Department, as to the reduction on the public debt made since the new administration assumed power, on the 4th of March, 1869. It was claimed that the reduction exhibited was merely the result of fictitious bookkeeping. To this charge, Secretary BOUTWELL makes the following conclusive answer:

> The net amount of the public debt on the 1st of March, 1869, including interest accrued and not paid, and excluding Pacific Railroad bonds, was $2,925,803,-729 91. The amount of the bonds then issued to the Pacific Railroad companies was $64,937,000, or an aggregate liability and indebtedness of $2,990,740,729 91.
>
> On the 1st of February, 1870, the net amount of the debt, excluding bonds issued to the Pacific Railroad companies, and including interest accrued and unpaid was $2,441 813 288 92. The bonds issued to the Pacific Railroad companies at the latter date amounted to $64,457,220, or an aggregate liability and indebtedness of $2,506,270,508 92.
>
> "It thus appears that the liability of the United States, on account of the Pacific Railroads has been increased during the eleven months, under acts of Congress previously passed, to the amount of $10,810,-779 01.
>
> "During the same period of eleven months the direct debt, or the debt for which no bonds have been furnished was $60,089,971 09, and if the increased liability of the United States on account of the Pacific Railroads be added, there still remains an actual diminution of the total direct debt of the United States, during the period mentioned, during these eleven months, of $70,129,551 09. The figures are those of the books of record in the Treasury Department, and cannot in any way be impeached."

This, we think, is putting the facts as clearly as it is possible. The statement of the exact amount of the public debt on the first of March, 1869, just as the GRANT administration came into power, has not heretofore been printed. Mr. MCCULLOCH'S statement of that date, including interest accrued, but not yet due. In eleven months, it therefore appears from Secretary BOUTWELL'S letter, the Treasury has actually paid off, out of current receipts, the sum of $80,649,971 of its indebtedness, or at the rate of $88,000,000 for the first year of the administration of General GRANT. Even including the increased indebtedness on account of the Pacific Railroad, the debt has been reduced in the eleven months over seventy millions of dollars.

This is certainly a gratifying exhibit, and the feeling is in no wise lessened when we look into the causes that made it possible. First of all, is increased economy in every department of the public service. Ranking next is the efficiency introduced in the collection of internal revenue by the dismissal of incompetent and corrupt officials and the substitution of men of ability and integrity. This fact is shown by the following statement given by the Commissioner of Internal Revenue showing the amount of duty collected from the leading objects of taxation during the last six months of 1869 as compared with the last six months of 1868, under the administration of ANDREW JOHNSON:

	1868.	1869.
On distilled spirits	$10,124,861	$21,074,445
On tobacco	9,991,224	15,461,272
On fermented liquors and porter	2,204,675	3,670,762
On gross receipts	2,754,075	3,518,930
On sales	1,930,063	2,776,000
On income	13,153,618	13,679,502
On other sources	14,423,171	15,207,089
Total collections	$60,730,109	$93,583,124

This increase in every branch of taxation, with a single exception, is greater than can be accounted for by any improvement in the resources of the country, in the best of times. It is justly attributable to the greater honesty and efficiency of the administration, and its subordinates throughout the country.

CHANGE IN THE NATURALIZATION LAWS.

The new naturalization law submitted by the Judiciary Committee of the House of Representatives, is to provide a uniform rule of naturalization throughout the United States, and correct many abuses and frauds which have become the settled practice in some of the large cities. The Constitution in express terms makes it the duty of Congress to establish a uniform rule on the subject, and it has been decided again and again by the courts, and it is not now disputed, that the power to confer citizenship is vested exclusively in Congress. In pursuance of this power, in the proposed law, proceedings for naturalization must be taken before the United States District or Circuit Courts, instead of before the State Courts, as heretofore—discretionary on the part of the applicants, heretofore. The other sections of the bill provide:

> As a first step, the applicant must file with the clerk of the court a notice of intention to become a citizen, and make oath to the fact that he has been domiciled for twelve months, and the declaration must state his name, age, occupation, residence, arrival in the country, &c., and be signed by the applicant in the office of the clerk in person. The notice is to be filed, but open for inspection or copying. After four years subsequent to the filing of the notice in the United States, he may apply to one of the courts named for admission to citizenship, at least twenty days before the term of such court at which he has resided in the State for the previous six months, and in the district, county, or parish in which the application is made for thirty days. And he must produce one or more credible citizens of the United States to testify not only to his residence, but also to his moral character and fitness generally for admission. Any citizen may produce opposing evidence. If the court is satisfied in the application's favor, it shall order that he be admitted as a citizen, to take effect six months thereafter, and so stating.

The bill is purposely framed to suppress the hasty, careless and fraudulent manner in which the high prerogative of American citizenship has been heretofore conferred. The scenes in the State Courts in many of the larger cities, on the eve of important elections, are in the highest degree discreditable, and must have tended to impress foreigners with either the dignity or value of naturalization as members of our political family. There is hardly any difference of opinion now on the subject of the admission of foreigners to citizenship. The people are ready to admit all emigrants to equal political rights after a short residence, on the most generous terms. But the determination is manifest that naturalization must no longer be used to cloak enormous frauds on the ballot-box. No American wants the value of his own vote destroyed by the wholesale frauds, now looked on as a matter of course in the large cities, at the recurrence of every important election. There is no desire to exclude any one from citizenship of reasonable difficulty of attainment, but we all should insist that the right should be honestly attained. It will be valued the higher, and in this respect is of as much importance to the naturalized as the native-born citizen. In this view of the subject, and because the power legitimately appertains to the United States courts, we are strongly in favor of the proposed law now pending in the House of Representatives.

THE "organ" has had its fiery ardor subdued. Its bugle blast no more awakens the echoes. Its thrilling appeals to "the Republicans of Pennsylvania"—men and brethren—have been shrivelled up. People breathe easier. The terrors of excommunication are withheld. Gov. GEARY survives. The Legislature still lives. Our greatest grief is the small point to which the Republican party has been whittled down. For mercy's sake, now let us have peace. The "organ" has shown its power.

THE Philadelphia *Dispatch*, the most prominent of the city weeklies, lets us into the wheel within a wheel of the police bill. It says:

> "The first great object was to make the commissioners elective by the people, but the members of the Legislature who decided to see "a long supremacy over the voters of the city. The second was the immediate exertion of the influence of the so-called Republican Police in favor of the nomination of certain parties for Congress at the next election, one of which is a member of the Legislature engaging in very close connection with the paternity of the bill. "If this act had been passed, the Republican nominations for next October would have been made the very day the Governor signed the bill. As he has refused to sanction it, the 'plan' is smashed."

It is refreshing to know that the Republican party of the State was tied to the tail end of this disreputable scheme, in order to make it fly. And then to think, we are all "read out of the party," because we wouldn't allow ourselves to be bamboozled by the idea that the very existence of Republicanism depended on the success of the fraud. How the gamblers would have chuckled and laughed in their sleeves had they won. But then, the "organ" will please observe, they didn't win. As variety is the spice of life, let us have a little more "reading out."

THE Mormons have made a high bid for the women of the land—at least those of them who think that suffrage is the chief end of women. The Salt Lake Legislature have passed a bill conferring suffrage on the women of the territory, and it is reasonable to conclude that not a few outsiders will be attracted thither by this extraordinary advance in human rights and civilization on the part of the Mormons. Apart from this, a pleasant sarcasm is contained in the action of the Mormon brethren; and it is barely possible that the strong minded will perceive that it is capable of a construction not altogether flattering to their cause.

IN the SCHOEPPE case the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania have declined to interfere, holding that under the statutes the Supreme Court cannot review the evidence, nor can have anything to do with the guilt or innocence of the prisoner, and therefore is compelled to affirm the judgment of the Court below. The opinion is based upon technical objections to the appeal from the Court below, and at its close uses this language:

> "The hearing, therefore, before us was upon a writ of error at common law, upon which no error could be assigned but those which were apparent on the face of the record itself. We could therefore, not legally or in our judicial capacities, look at the evidence, the bill of exceptions and the charge of the Court, much less at the large mass of extraneous matter presented upon our attention and notice. We have nothing to do with the guilt or innocence of the prisoner, and all we can say is that we discover no error in the record."

THE Cincinnati *Enquirer* takes pains to prove that the Democratic party is "a unit" against the American Policy of Protection, and in favor of the foreign policy of free trade. We hope that this Democratic organ will stick to its text in the struggle that is at hand on this question.

THE CASE OF DR. SCHOEPPE.

The Law Applicable to His Case—Opinions as to His Guilt.

The bill relative to writs of error in homicide cases, commonly called "the Schoeppe bill," and which was passed over the Governor's veto on Tuesday, provides that in all cases of murder a writ of error to the Supreme Court from the Court trying the case shall be of right, and may be sued out by the defendant or defendants, as in civil cases. In all cases removed into the Supreme Court under this act, it is made the duty of the Judges to review both the law and the evidence, and to determine whether the ingredients necessary to constitute murder in the first degree shall have been found to exist, and if not so proved, then to reverse the judgment and send the same back for a new trial, or to enter such judgment as the laws of the State require. The case of Dr. Schoeppe was before the Supreme Court last week on a writ of error at common law, and the Court on Monday decided that they could not look into the record of the Court below, which was the only question they could legally entertain, not being clothed with the power to review the evidence, the bill of exceptions and the charge of the Judge. Under the new law the Judges are now clothed with that power, and Dr. Schoeppe's case will doubtless come before them again, when the whole case will be reopened, and the testimony carefully sifted and weighed.

Relative to the guilt of Dr. Schoeppe the belief seems to be almost universal that the evidence was insufficient to warrant a conviction on the charge of murder, and we are bold that Miss Steinecke did not die from violence, but from natural causes. The Philadelphia *Post* says he "has been tried by a judge of far more wisdom and legality—by the public and the press, and the almost universal opinion is that he was convicted upon insufficient grounds, and that there is no proof that Miss Steinecke died by poison." The Philadelphia *Dispatch* concluding that Schoeppe is innocent, says: "Indeed it is very confidently asserted that conclusive evidence exists that she was not murdered at all, and no intelligent person will believe that there is any reliable evidence that she was poisoned, as charged by the Court that convicted Schoeppe." The Philadelphia *Inquirer* says: There is no question whatever that Miss Lizzie Lee is a reasonable doubt as to the incompetency and irregularity of the chemical examination, and it is everywhere contended that the prisoner was not given the benefit of those reasonable doubts at the time of the trial."

ANOTHER of the Harper Brothers, publishers of New York—Mr. J. Wesley Harper—died on Monday morning, the 14th inst. The deceased was the literary member of the firm. He wrote in a very clear and finished style, and was a sound critic and an excellent judge of the literary merits of the works of the prolific pens which are found in many of the volumes of the old Family Library, and he always exercised a large influence over the choice of the publications of the house. He was also the editor of *Harper's Magazine*. Until his eldest son grew up and entered the business, Mr. Harper conducted the literary correspondence of the house; and many of the authors whose works were published by the Harpers have been charmed with his courtly and kindly letters. He possessed a singularly clear and sound judgment, both of men and books, but united to this great strength was extreme modesty. He retained his cheerful temper and quiet humor to the last. Just before his death on Monday morning, he took an affectionate farewell, not only of his family, but of the old servants of the publishing house, many of whom had been his friends from his own younger days.

AND now we have the idea of a ship canal across Cape Cod. It is not a new one. In 1776 George Washington earnestly called attention to the subject, and urged the construction of the canal as a means of facilitating the commerce and defense of the coast. Again in 1814, a resolution was offered in Congress by Hon. Mr. Lloyd urging the importance of the work on that particular point, but it was lost. In 1859, under the direction of the Legislature of Massachusetts, a survey was made, and statistics collected bearing upon the value of the proposed work, showing the dangers of navigation at this point. From 1860 to 1870 disasters from those dangers occurred to over 600 vessels, involving a loss of over 140 lives. The distance by canal from New York to Boston would be shortened eight hours for steam vessels by the construction of the work. The canal which the company applying to the Massachusetts Legislature for a charter, proposes to construct, is to be seven and one-half miles long, 300 feet wide, and twenty-six and one-half feet deep.

THE proposition in the House of Representatives to change the mode of settling contested election cases by drawing a special jury of nine members in each case on the old plan of the House of Commons, was defeated in the House on Monday, on a motion to suspend the rules, by 78 to 104, not the required two-thirds, but not even a majority. The plan proposed by General Paine is similar to that in force in Pennsylvania. The practicability of throwing all the contested election cases into the Courts has been suggested, but it is thought by some that the Constitution stands in the way of this because of the provision which makes it incumbent upon each House to be the judge of the election, returns and qualifications of its own members.

THE testimony that is adduced by the Military Committee of the House in regard to the sale of cadetships at West Point and Annapolis, is damaging in the extreme. The general sentiment in the House is that members found to be implicated must be expelled. On Tuesday, a letter was laid before the Committee from a Southern member of Congress said to be Whittemore, of South Carolina, offering to sell a cadetship to West Point for five hundred dollars. The sale was not effected with the party to whom the letter was addressed. The committee are very close in their proceedings, refusing to give a particle of information, fearing that it might spoil their work by putting the guilty parties upon their guard.

"DEAD HEADS" in the navy, is the expressive caption given by a correspondent of the *Tribune*, who figures up that the country is the possessor of thirty-two admirals and seventy-five commodores with subordinates to match. Eighteen rear-admirals and fifty-two commodores are nominally on the retired and reserved list, with sinecure rations at home, and only fourteen of the admirals and twelve of the commodores so that they get full pay,—five admirals being on "special duty" at Washington, though what special duty they may be there except to flatter admiral Porter, we do not see,—and altogether there are sixty-three admirals and commodores engaged in active duty of some kind, though very few are at sea, and our whole naval force does not number over 10,-000 men.

GEN. MCMAHON, late Minister to Paraguay, in a lecture in New York, on Monday night, described Lopez, as a man of courtly, dignified manners, winning and pleasing—a description which Gen. McMahon doubtless not would surprise many who have heard Lopez described as a monster and an assassin. The General charged that the agent of the allies obtained lists of all the executions that had taken place in Paraguay and charged them as murders upon Lopez. Perhaps his greatest crime was that for five years he had heroically defended his country against a most formidable combination of enemies. Lopez is still lively in Paraguay—although the telegraph every week or two, as it has done for a couple of years, makes a fearful dispensation of him.

THE Supreme Court of Pennsylvania has affirmed the decision of the lower court in the Philadelphia contested election cases, thus reseating the city officers, with the exception of the Mayoralty, in the hands of the successful Republican contestants. The cases were appealed on alleged errors of procedure in the court below. Judge Agnew delivered the opinion of the court.

POSTMASTER GENERAL CRESWELL proposes it the bill abolishing the franking privilege becomes a law to recommend at an early date that letter postage be reduced from three to two cents per half ounce. He also expresses himself in favor of carrying newspapers in the counties where printed, free of postage.

UNIFORM TIME.

A New System for Securing It for the Whole Country.

NO. I.

The prospect of a general introduction into this country, at no distant date, of a new system of reckoning time, (new here but long established abroad,) has led to the preparation of the following articles, the results of some careful inquiry, and which, it is hoped, will afford in a briefspace, all desirable information on a topic of general interest.

It is proposed to do away with all the present vexatious changes of time in railway travel, and to have *one* railway time through the part of the country east of the Mississippi, and it will be shown that no reason exists why this time may not be adopted by the whole community, so that the city clocks in New York and Pittsburgh and Chicago shall indicate the same hour.

Custom has reconciled us to the inconvenience of each city and town having a separate time of its own, though, as it will be seen, it is founded in no natural necessity, but is a legacy of the past, as much as the local coinage which pl

THE STATE FUNDS.

THE TREASURY INVESTIGATION.

Treasurer Mackey's Statement—It is Held to be Not in Accordance with the Request of the Committee.

Special Dispatch to Pittsburgh Press.

HARRISBURG, February 15, 1870.

In the Senate Finance Committee to-night, State Treasurer Mackey presented a written statement, and in answer to the questions of Wallace, White, Billingfelt and Brooke reiterated that he had followed the practice of his predecessors in depositing the public funds. He had been obliged to draw upon the Sinking Fund to a large extent, owing to the fact that the appropriations to charitable institutions, to soldiers' orphans and common schools has been largely increased. Large deficits were also to be met.

Not the Statement Required.

Mr. Billingfelt, Chairman, and Senator Wallace concurred in the expression that the statement presented by Mr. Mackey was not in accordance with the request of the Committee. They had desired a monthly account of what the same consisted.

Mr. Mackey said that it was not the statement he had originally intended to prepare, but he had been guided by several members of the Committee, who had expressed themselves satisfied. The following is the statement presented by State Treasurer Mackey:

Statement of Treasury Balance Monday, May 3d, 1869.

DUE FROM BANKS AND BANKERS.

National Bank of Commerce, Erie, failed 1865	2,418 37
Bank of Commerce, Erie, failed 1865	3,893 48
Venango National Bank, Franklin, failed 1865	7,224 50
Messrs. J. R. Dick & Sons, Meadville	8,532 60
Messrs. Baer & Shenk, Lancaster	8,788 67
Carlisle Deposit Bank, Carlisle	5,000 00
Manheim National Bank, Manheim	5,000 00
First National Bank, Washington	19,282 00
Farmers and Mechanics' Bank, Mifflintown	15,082 49
Union Banking Company, Philadelphia	10,032 00
Citizens' Bank, Pittsburgh	16,367 76
Messrs. Stehman, Clarkson & Co., Lancaster	20,135 15
Messrs. G. F. Mason & Co., Towanda	16,201 93
First National Bank, Northumberland	11,170 00
First National Bank, Warren	10,000 00
Farmers and Mechanics' National Bank, Philadelphia, gold	8,067 09
Iron City National Bank, Pittsburgh	12,975 00
Union National Bank, Lewisburg	10,000 00
Harrisburg National Bank, Harrisburg	10,000 00
Tradesmen's National Bank, Pittsburgh	17,076 78
Second National Bank, Mechanicsburg	15,000 00
Girard National Bank, Philadelphia	120 00
Farmers and Mechanics' National Bank, Philadelphia	17,031 10
National Bank, Middletown	10,000 00
Mercer's Bank, Towanda	20,182 10
First National Bank, Huntingdon	10,078 20
Messrs. Wm. M. Lord & Co., Altoona	50,000 00
First National Bank, Bellefonte	20,000 00
Messrs. Jay Cooke & Co., Philadelphia	78,224 50
Messrs. A. E. Verin, jr., & Co., Philad'a	20,000 00
First National Bank, Norristown	20,000 00
Mechanics Bank Northeast Bank	161,981 15
Jacob R. Ridgway Bank, Philadelphia	100,000 00
Vault	241,303 99
Drawer	8,252 15
Coupon account	17,781 50
Advances to officers of Government	20,409 62
Balance in Treasury, Monday, May 3d, 1869	1,135,191 92
Treasury Balance, January 31st, 1870.	
DUE FROM BANKS AND BANKERS.	
Workingmen's Savings Bank, Allegheny	25,000 01
Allegheny Savings Bank, Allegheny	10,000 00
Bank of Chambersburg	7,224 50
Farmers and Mechanics' National Bank, Gold	8,279 90
Messrs. Baer & Shenk, Lancaster	5,000 00
German Savings Bank, Allegheny	5,000 00
Messrs. McClintock, Clarkson & Co., Lancaster	5,000 00
Indiana Deposit Bank, Indiana	5,000 00
Messrs. Kirk, McVeigh & Co., Westchester	10,000 00
National Bank, Middletown	115,000 00
Farmers' National Bank of Reading, Reading	20,000 00
First National Bank of Bellefonte, Bellefonte	20,000 00
Jacob R. Ridgway, Philadelphia	100,000 00
National Bank of Harrisburg	1,077 50
Mechanics Bank, Harrisburg	25,000 00
Mercer's Bank, Towanda	10,041 20
Wm. M. Lloyd, Altoona	50,000 00
Messrs. G. F. Mason & Co., Towanda	15,000 29
Juniata Valley Bank, Mifflintown	33,082 49
State Bank, Harrisburg	20,000 00
Messrs. Lloyd, Huff & Co. Latrobe	10,000 00
Dougherty Bros. & Co., Harrisburg	5,000 00
Danville National Bank, Danville	4,000 00
First National Bank of Sharon, Sharon	10,000 00
Banking Co., Philadelphia	140,000 00
Kensington National Bank, Philadelphia	75,000 00
Allegheny National Bank, Pittsburgh	95,213 50
Hummelstown Bank	3,000 00
Messrs. Jay Cooke & Co., Philadelphia	42,702 27
First National Bank, Harrisburg	242,377 77
Farmers' and Mechanics' National Bank, Philadelphia	5,419 09
Vault	2,427 16
Drawer	180,016 50
Coupon account	14,229 87
Advances to officers of government	4,999 00
Total	$1,569,129 90
Less Farmers and Mechanics' National Bank, Philadelphia	144,021 51
Balance, Jan. 31st, 1870	$1,425,108 39

Three hundred and eighty thousand dollars was deposited in the Farmers' and Mechanics' National Bank, Monday, January 31st, 1870, but not called until Tuesday, February 1st, 1870.

The Finance Committee will meet to-morrow evening, and in the meantime will examine and discuss the statement of Mr. Mackey, and determine as to what further questions the Committee should propound to Mr. Mackey on appearing before them at that time.

THE STATE FUNDS.

THE TREASURY INVESTIGATION.

Mr. Mackey's Detailed Monthly Statement to be Made To-Day.

Special Dispatch to Pittsburgh Press.

HARRISBURG, PA., February 16, 1870.

The Senate Finance Committee met to-night. Chairman Billingfelt announced that Mr. Wallace requested him to state he could not be present, and desired the Committee to adjourn till to-morrow.

Mr. Mackey said he had thought last night that the statement he had then presented answered the requirements of the Committee, but was surprised to see by the morning papers that it was not satisfactory to the Committee.

Messrs. Brooke and Billingfelt said what the committee desired particularly was a detailed monthly statement of the balance.

Mr. Mackey said he was prepared now to present such statement.

After discussion, it was unanimously agreed to receive Mr. Mackey's statement to-morrow afternoon, and again place him on the stand.

Mr. White thought the committeee should have proceeded with other witnesses when present, but acquiesced in this decision.

CONGRESS.

WASHINGTON, D. C., February 16, 1870.

SENATE.

The House bill to provide for furnishing artificial limbs to disabled soldiers was discussed, and amended by extending its provisions to soldiers of the Mexican war. Other amendments were offered but not agreed to, or not acted upon.

The consideration of the Mississippi bill was resumed. Mr. YATES said that in justice to himself, and his high appreciation of the Senator from Wisconsin (Carpenter), he voluntarily withdrew whatever remark he had made inconsistent in his recent reply to that Senator's position. Referring to the Chinese question, he said the proposition to change our government would be further illustrated by extending to the Chinese and their religion the same immunities and protection enjoyed by races and religions under the protection of the Government.

Mr. STEWART made an argument against the constitutional power of Congress to impose unarranted conditions upon Mississippi.

Mr. WILLEY said he opposed conditions upon Virginia, but if after she were admitted he voted for the bill containing them. If the Senator from Vermont and others acting with him thought there was an unconstitutional part of those who opposed conditions upon Virginia, as unconstitutional, afterwards in voting for the bill, he (Willey) would relieve himself of any charge of inconsistency and stand firmly upon the constitutional objection by, by moving a repeal of the action of the Senate. He therefore moved to amend the amendment to repeal so much of the Virginia act as declared the State admitted to representation upon such fundamental conditions as should be expressed.

Mr. MORTON asked why, if the Senator desired to be consistent, he did not include all States which were admitted on conditions.

Mr. WILLEY said the conditions of Congress had been given to admit the late rebellious States to representation upon their proper, constitutional things. Mississippi and Virginia had complied with all these requirements. While the pending bill, in its very inception, required Virginia and Mississippi to have a republican government, therefore conditions to make her Government republican were superfluous.

Mr. EDMUNDS denied that Congress had ever entered into any bargain or contract with any State upon certain conditions. He proceeded to review briefly the history of Congress in the way it were called admonitions and threatenings of popular storms, of which New England had been wont to complain. He said the principle upon which the institutions of those States were established would never be overthrown, and that the wisdom of her belief in the power of Government to preserve in obedience to it had already been abundantly vindicated in future.

Motions for executive session and to adjourn were defeated, the former by one, and the latter two votes.

Mr. WILLER then addressed the Senate against the power of Congress to impose conditions.

Adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Mr. CREBS offered a resolution instructing the Judiciary Committee to inquire into the expediency of repealing the law conferring admiralty jurisdiction on State courts exercising common law jurisdiction.

Mr. CULLOM reported a bill to aid in the execution of the law in the Territories to punish polygamy. During the reading of the bill the morning hour expired, and it went over to-morrow.

Mr. BANKS, chairman of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, introduced a joint resolution which was read and referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs:

Joint resolutions in relation to the contest between the people of Cuba and the Government of Spain.

Resolved, by the Senate and House of Representatives, in Congress assembled, That the President of the United States be requested, if not inconsistent with the public interest, to direct and authorized and instructed to declare and maintain a strictly impartial neutrality in the contest now existing between the people of Cuba and the Government of the Kingdom of Spain.

And be it further resolved, That all acts and parts of acts and all provisions of statute approved April 20, 1818, entitled "An act in addition to an act for thepunishment of certain crimes against the United States, and to repeal acts therein mentioned," which are now may be considered to be in conflict with the faithful execution of the objects and purpose of the foregoing resolution, shall be and hereby are declared to be, in force for the existing contest between the people of Cuba and the Government of Spain, and so long as that contest shall continue in operation, but not longer.

The House then resumed consideration of the case of Van Wyck, the contested member. The discussion was continued until four and a half o'clock. The resolution of the minority, declaring Greene, the sitting member, entitled to the seat, was defeated, by 56 to 121, and that of the majority, giving the seat to Van Wyck, was adopted, yeas 117, nays 51.

A motion to adjourn was then made on the Democratic side, pending the swearing in of Van Wyck.

Mr. BROOKS, of New York—Swear him in, swear him in.

Mr. STILES—After that outrage the House had better adjourn.

The SPEAKER—The gentleman's language is very ungentlemanly.

It appearing on a division that no quorum was present, the House at 5:20 adjourned.

The appointment of General Jordan as Commander-in-Chief of the Cuban armies is fully confirmed. The Cuban Congress, composed in great part of members chosen at the election last fall, made the change.

THE GREAT WEST AND TIDE WATER.

The Baltimore, Pittsburgh and Chicago Railway—The National Highway.

To the Editor of the Pittsburgh Commercial:

The necessity of another competing line of railroad from the great grain and stock producing West to the commercial sea board, has long been felt by three prominent classes, to wit: Producers, shippers and consumers; and it must be a source of pleasure to those most interested to know that at last the legal disabilities under which the Connellsville road struggled for so many years have been removed, and she completing her Eastern connections and inviting a share of the trade of the West over her line to Baltimore, where a local market will be found for produce perhaps equal to any city on the sea board, and facilities for exportation second to none in the country except New York. In view of these facts it would not be surprising if a lively competition should spring up for the location of the line of railroad that is to connect the great lakes of the Northwest with the Connellsville Road at Pittsburgh. By the *Belmont Chronicle* of the 20th inst., I notice that the enterprising people of that county have put a project in motion which they say "means business," looking to the accomplishment of the same end by way of the Baltimore and Ohio Road. They propose to build a road from some point on the river, Bellaire, possibly, "to St. Clairsville, Flushing and Freeport, to Urichsville, and thence as rapidly as possible to Mansfield, to connect there with the road to Toledo." The subject is urged in that journa with a good deal of vigor, and some show o plausibility.

On the other hand, I observe in the COMMERCIAL of the 22d, an article in the Akron *Beacon* of the 16th inst., in which attention is called to the organization of the Baltimore, Pittsburgh and Chicago Railway Company. In giving the names of the directors, that paper omits the name of the only one on the board when the location of the road is under consideration. The article alluded to proceeds exclusively that the Baltimore and Ohio and the Connellsville Roads are declared to be their Western connection, and see very plainly that something near the line of the Fort Wayne road to Salem, and thence to Akron would be likely to secure more advantages to the company than any other route, and as an antidote the growing opposition of the Canton people, coolly recommends to that city the building of a stub to a line now being surveyed by Hosea Paul and his assistants between Salem and Akron. The discovery and energy of this road in the liberality and enterprise of the citizens of those places, assures them they appreciate the advantages of the road, and are willing to invest liberally in the contest, in the hope of winning the victory.

A line of railway, to be successful as a competing line for through freight and passengers, as is the ultimate design of this enterprise, and with the most flattering prospects of success, should be located upon the most shortest possible line that will admit of easy grades, and, consequently, the most variation from a straight line between the principal points sought to be reached. Assuming, as this road will, almost the entire business of a number of roads connecting more directly than by any other line the great Northwest with the seaboard and population, it should be turned aside by no mere local interests or personal aspirations. A reference to the map, from Pittsburgh to Belmont county line is too far south and the Salem and Akron line too far north to accomplish these objects. A point should be and along the waters of the Little Beaver to New Liberty; thence a northwesterly direction by very easy grades and an almost direct line to the head waters of the Mahoning; thence by New Lisbon and Canfield to the high ridge of Columbiana county, and leave that stream by very easy grades in the vicinity between Canton or Wooster, as would best answer the design in the construction of the road, it is believed would suggest itself as the most practicable route between Pittsburgh and Cleveland, would probably combine more local advantages than any one named. There is a deep ravine connecting the headwaters of the West fork with those of the Mahoning, thus affording a natural passage through these fertile valleys for a distance of ten or twelve miles. It was through this passage that the late Professor Mitchell made a survey many years ago, when the idea was first conceived of connecting the Ohio river with Lake Erie by rail, and had this line ultimately been adopted instead of the Cleveland and Pittsburgh road, it would have saved a large expenditure of money and several miles in distance. The route above indicated, with some variations, is the one just surveyed by Mr. Phillips and his assistants, under the supervision and employ of the Baltimore, Pittsburgh and Chicago Railway Company. It is understood that he is under instructions from the Board to review this route, make such corrections, as are deemed it by the valley of the Mahoning instead of the high landwards of it, which I believe will insure a very favorable report as to distance, grades and cost of construction.

I had intended alluding to the vast mineral resources of the valley of the Little Beaver in the vicinity of New Lisbon and between that place and the river, but this article is already too long. Suffice it to say that iron ore, coal, salt and building stone, all of a superior quality, are found here in great abundance. Let the competing routes have a full hearing and thorough investigation, and let the decision be on *merit alone.* OBSERVER.

STATE NEWS.

Titusville is to have another bank. The organization will be completed in a few days.

The Lake Shore Grape Growers' Association held their annual meeting at North East, Erie county, on the 6th inst.

The Titusville *Herald* says: A young man from the vicinity of Riceville sent to Petroleum Center last week for a pure article of whisky for a medical beverage. The article came in a coffin, aside from the hearse hire, cost just seventeen dollars.

The debt of Berks county is $150,000, with enough money in the Treasury and due on outstanding tax to pay the whole of it and leave a surplus. The debt of Lancaster county is $157,000.

The Beaver *Local*, owing to financial embarrassments, has suspended, and its late editor and publisher has left the town. The Democracy of Beaver are split without an organ.

Dr. Augustus Rhode and Mr. Josiah Fisher, of Topton, Berks county, have obtained a patent for manufacturing writing and printing paper of the leaves of cattails, and have already manufactured samples of most excellent quality.

The Friedensville zinc mines, near Bethlehem, annually yield 24,000 tons of ore of all grades. The opening or pit is now 25 feet deep, and embraces an area of about 200 feet across, with levels running from it in every direction and extending underground for miles.

The slate operators of Slatington and vicinity, Lehigh county, expect to fill the immediately increased demand for slate in the spring, which they propose to meet from the large stock they have manufactured during the winter, now lying at the quarries.

The income of the Schuylkill Navigation Company for the year 1868, from tolls, rents and all other sources, was $599,365 51, whilst the payments were $449,365 51. Balance applicable to payment of interest and sinking fund, $147,-169 79. Surplus beyond interest on loans and expenses, $3,073 59. The business of the company was much injured by the long drought. The main basin supplying the city of Philadelphia for the use of the water is now before the Courts.

The Clearfield *Journal* says timber hauling has been much retarded on account of the scarcity of snow and the roughness of the roads.

The Printers' Paper Mill, in Lancaster county, has been sold for forty thousand dollars to Lancaster parties.

The Philadelphia *Ledger* says; The new President of the Reading Railroad Company, Mr. Gowen, is worth an annual income of $30,000, and on condition that he relinquishes entirely the lucrative business of his profession, except the fine interest of the company, $10,000 annually in addition.

Among the attractions at Manch Chunk is the deer park of Judge Packer, which has recently been completed, and several occasions are already passed along the line of his enclosure as majestically as they are wont to do in their native wilds. Several fine stags now roam at their leisure, and others are to follow from time to time. The little stream running through the park is stocked with trout.

Some of the World's Giants.

In one of his recent lectures Prof. Silliman alluded to the discovery of the skeleton of an enormous lizard of eighty feet. From all he can Professor inferred, as no living specimen of such magnitude has been found, that the species which it represents has become degenerated. The verity of his conclusion he endeavored to enforce by allusion to the well-known existence of giants in olden times. The following is the list upon which this singular hypothesis is based: The giant ox preserved in Rouen, in 1830, the Professor says measured nearly eighteen feet. Goron, their chief, was ten feet high. The giant Galabra, brought from Arabia to Rome, under Claudius Cæsar, was ten feet high. The giant Ferragus, slaid by Orlando, nephew of Charlemagne, was twenty-eight feet high. Og, king of Bazan, Germany, was found the tomb of the giant Isorant, who was not less than thirty feet high. In 1850, near Rouen, was found a skeleton whose skull held a bushel of corn, and who was nineteen feet high. The thigh bones were twenty-two feet high; his thigh bones were found in 1704 near the river Moderi. In 1823 near the castle of Dassigny, in Switzerland, was found a tomb, sixteen wide, and eight high, on which was cut in gray stone these words: "Gradivus hic situs Rex." The skeleton was found entire, twenty-five and a quarter feet long, ten feet across the shoulders, and five feet from the breast bone to the back. We have no doubt that "there were giants in those days," and the earth is not entirely prolific in producing them than the present. But the history of giants during the olden time was one more pleasure is worth, that of dwarfs, several of whom were even smaller than the Thumbs and Nutts of our own time.

Insect Petroleum Items.

The Titusville *Herald* of yesterday says: Several new wells are going down on the McCray farm, on the opposite side of the creek from Petroleum Center. Of these one or two are nearly ready to test. The Wingard well, located on the land of the United Petroleum Farms Association, and next to Hasson's Cottage Hill, promises to be a fine well. Some difficulty is experienced in working around it having the high oil sand to contend with. Among the recent strikes on the Lillie farm was the Wing well No. 2, producing about forty barrels per day, and the Sherman well, producing from ten to twelve barrels per day. Both of these wells were struck within the past week upon the Lillie farm, which is located between Pithole and Shamburg, about half a mile from the Exton Farm. One hundred and fifty dollars per acre was recently offered for two hundred acres on the east side of Oil City, by parties who are about to develope that territory.

The new President of Hayti, Nesage Saget, is a genuine Haytien, sixty-two years of age, tall and slender. The heartless Soulouque confined him in a dungeon for a period of ten years, and was released by the Geffrard party upon Soulouque's overthrow. When the people of the south clamored against Geffrard's administration of affairs in 1864, Saget being in the confidence of the government, was selected to quiet them. He took charge of the District of Leogane and restored order to that section. After a few months he was transferred to Jacmel and continually made the instrument of preserving peace between Geffrard and a dissatisfied people. He remained quietly there, and was pleased with the Geffrard Government and with its measures, and continued present at the same time tendering his withdrawal from office. On the 23d of February, 1867, a revolution broke out in Port au Prince, which drove Geffrard, on the 24th of March, to abdicate. His authority was tendered to Saget, and he accepted it only to arrest disorganization, but took it under protest, publicly stating that he desired to have the office of President filled by constitutional enactment, and not by the momentary impulses of mobocracy. He acted on this occasion as Provisional President until the nomination of Salnave. Being of retiring habits, and not unduly ambitious, he gave way for Salnave, on condition that the choice of President should be by election, according to law. After Salnave's election as President, under the new constitution, Saget became once more charged with the Department of the North, which he kept until the final overthrow of Salnave's Government.

EXTRA

INDUCEMENTS!!

PREMIUMS FOR

New Subscribers

FOR THE

COMMERCIAL,

FOR 1870.

In order that all our new subscribers to the WEEKLY COMMERCIAL may share alike in the inducements we offer, we have made arrangements to furnish each single subscriber, at two dollars a year, with a valuable picture. The COMMERCIAL alone is fully worth the subscription price, but we are persuaded to offer this extra inducement in order that our circulation may be more rapidly extended. We have been at great cost in procuring these pictures, and the subscription price of our Weekly will scarcely cover the outlay. Every new subscriber, therefore, commencing December 1st, 1869, who sends us two dollars, will receive one of the following six pictures, the subscriber taking his choice:

I.---THE STRAW YARD.

The Straw Yard is copied from J. F. Herring's celebrated painting. It is a picture that interests at the first glance. The animals are drawn from the human point of action, his brutes have not inapply been turned to "our legged humanity." The Straw Yard is one of his best efforts, felicitous in composition, lively in details, displaying an appreciation of nature seldom found in the treatment of kindred subjects. The groups of animals are artistically covered with draggled, damp straw munching carelessly at the straw lying before them in the yard. The figure occupying a central position are two horses, whose very attitude suggests repose. The snow lined limb exhibits every fibre of the bark, and the sere leaves from the sun's rays in the hot August days. The fowl darting in and out between the horses hoofs in quest of a chance grain or grub, like the swine at their heels, are equally indifferent to danger. Assimilation; familiarity in this case breeds contempt. The chicks turn their bills under to bring to calm security; the pigs bury their snouts deep under the dank straw in their eagerness to secure the vegetables flung down for their special benefit, attracting by their selfish grunts those of their fellows in the distance, which are no ways slow in responding to the signal of a common conflict. In the distance a group of horses seek the shelter of a shed, from under which they contemplate the scene complacently, snuffing the frosty air and varying the monotony of the winter day by tondling each other's manes. The foliage of the trees and is equally suitable for the drawing-room or library.

II.---SHEARING TIME.

The conception of this picture is so simple as to appeal at once to the sympathies of the beholder. Its perspective, like its principal figures, is true to nature. The picture is not copied from one of the ablest paintings produced by J. Berendsen, a famous artist, "Shearing Time" represents the real poetry of lowly life. The expression of the half shorn ram, and between the sheep is as natural as human. The expression and attitude of the shearer, as with pipe in his mouth he directs the attention of his faithful shepherd dog to the disposition of the next subject to evade the trying ordeal, is a study in itself. If the dog permits the sheep to stray after such a look as that cast upon him by his master, he cannot plead trying ordeal in the matter's will, betrayed in every lineament of his stern countenance. He is a highland dog in the slumbrous distance, the friendly collies of the lass at the gate, the occupation of the figures in the foreground, all go to make the picture, reminding the observer of a sweet melody, or a pensive poem. Size, 21x26 inches. A mate for the preceding picture.

III.---HALT IN THE WOOD.

Copied from F. Gauermann, whose works display a technical strength, an imagination competent to high creative art, and a knowledge of nature's secrets which has placed him in the front rank of modern painters. The "Halt in the Wood" is full of ease, grace and vitality. Its personages are true to nature. The thirsty hunter quaffing leisurely from the liquid stream, the faithful retriever, sixteen wide, and eight high, on which was cut in gray stone these words: "Gradivus hic situs Rex." The skeleton was found entire, twenty-five and a quarter feet long, ten feet across the shoulders, and five feet from the breast bone to the back. We have no doubt that "there were giants in those days," and the earth is not entirely prolific in producing them than the present. But the history of giants during the olden time was one more pleasure is worth, that of dwarfs, several of whom were even smaller than the Thumbs and Nutts of our own time.

IV.---GAMEKEEPERS' RETURN.

This is also copied from F. Gauermann. Like the preceding picture, "The Gamekeeper's Return" displays the ready and quick hand of a master. Full of spirit, yet bold and clear, broad and effective in style, it displays a delicacy of refinement in execution and sentiment seldom equalled. In his *genre*, or home paintings, Gauermann appears to be as much at home as in the difficult task of depicting the passions and sentiment of animal life. We say "home" painting, because in the "Gamekeeper's Return" awakens all those sentiments, feelings and ideas which have their origin and growth under the fireside and in social training. The Gamekeeper is the central figure. He has laid his gun out of his hand, he directs his wife's attention to the game beneath which the table beside him is loaded. Hares, rabbits, pheasants, quails, each in turn are held up to the admiring gaze of wife, who in her eagerness to pass upon the merits of the same, pauses in her domestic occupation, extending a critical hand. The gamekeeper's son flings the weight of game from his shoulders; the antlers of the dead deer stretch across the floor, and a setter, in his eagerness to share his thirst, laps from a dish in a corner. Men and dogs are privileged characters. The frame of the chase absorbs the attention of the tidy housekeeper. Size 21x26 inches, a companion piece to the preceding picture.

V.--FIRST LESSON IN NAVIGATION.

There is something in life on the sea that fascinates old and young. Even those who recoil from the adventuresome life of those who "go down to the sea" in great ships, display a fondness for the less venturesome attempts of coast life. A sail with a spanking breeze, under safe guidance, has charms which few can resist. This charm the artist conveys in a peculiarly happy manner in the First Lesson in Navigation. There is just enough "cap" on the waves to indicate a breeze. The old fisherman, seated at the boat's side, takes a turn in the line and casts a watchful glance over his shoulder upon the grinning urchin at the helm, bare head, and shielded from the wind and spray by his father's cape, keeps the small craft in her course, employing both hands, and preserving the grave countenance which becomes great responsibilities. The younger brother, bare headed, bare footed and coatless, sits on the other side of the craft, intent upon the line, absorbed in the sport. The keys of the already half filled with the fish, but the young navigator will not relinquish his responsible position until the vessel's head is turned homewards. "The First Lesson in Navigation" is one of the finest conceptions from the pencil of the artist. A picture to dwell on, appealing as it does to our finer sympathies. Size 21x26 inches.

VI.---WEIGHING THE DEER.

This is pronounced one of the best of Gauermann's successful genre pictures. Although there is scarcely a full length figure in the picture, they are grouped in such a skilful manner as to afford ample scope for the elaboration of the details which are necessary to such masterpieces. The picture represents the interior of the farmhouse in the highlands of Scotland. The hunt is over, and the inmates gather round to examine the game. A female commences to disentwines the fish basket. Two does lie across each other on the floor, a hunter kneels by the fire with a buck on his shoulder, while a large buck lies on the scales which hang pendent from the ceiling. A group of four persons rested in the turn of the scales, for the big buck has been the subject of much discussion. The conclusion of the head huntsman is final, however, for it is attested by the stag hounds, dead fowl and the trophies of former hunts hanging on the walls go to make up one of the most effective and picturesque pictures. "Weighing the Deer" has been the subject of the highest encomiums from celebrated artists and art critics. It is a picture calculated to adorn a palace, or to light up the humblest home. Any one of the above pictures is worth a year's subscription to the COMMERCIAL. Size 21x26 inches.

A PLAN looking to the independence of Canada, has been presented to the Dominion Parliament, by Mr. Huntington. He has given to the subject mature study, and associates his coherence intimately with a Zollverein on the continent. It will be claimed that Confederation is a dead experiment, for the reason that reciprocal trade with the rest of the continent is a thing of the past. The tariff has been so stitched together in the flimsiest manner. The revolt against it in the different provinces sufficiently proves it. Nova Scotia is off on the opposition. Newfoundland votes "no confidence." Prince Edward Island declares it will not pay. Petitions for annexation come from British Columbia. And Winnipeg in the wilderness has to be pulled back to the line of trade in the Hudson's Bay Company, to suppress her cries for independence. Talk all hour we will, Confederation is a dead affair, not to be resuscitated.

IN regard to the experiment going on in Washington to utilize petroleum as fuel, we learn that for the past two months the daily use of the apparatus has been to drive a thirty-horse power engine, with a common thirty-five-foot cylindrical boiler. Relative tests with Cumberland coal have shown that the average pressure of steam with coal fuel under the same boiler is thirty-five pounds; the coal fires being raked out and the ashes sifted, the pressure becomes reduced to twenty-five pounds. The gas fires then being started the pressure is increased to seventy pounds in twenty minutes. This service is performed at an expense of one gallon of petroleum per hour—cost, seventeen cents. The capacity of the present apparatus is estimated at twenty thousand cubic feet of gas per hour, equally adapted for fuel or for illuminating purposes. From the five times repeated tests the combination is regulated, there is neither smoke, dust, nor ashes. It is made out of comparative economy the results thus far seem to be of great promise.

AT least one of the failures announced in New York in the last few days is pronounced a fraud, and an attempt to swindle. When failures become fashionable scoundrels come to the surface. A New York paper assures us that there are not wanting evidences to prove that this mode of raising the financial wind is becoming alarmingly frequent, and unless our business men expose and punish known offenders they must expect to see those dishonestly disposed yielding to the temptation and "milking" their creditors.

FINANCE AND TRADE.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, February 16, 1870.

There is a fair demand for money at bank at the usual rates, on business paper. We find a scarcity of good offerings on the open market, which is generally the case when the banks and regular discount houses are well supplied with money. First-class paper will rarely stand high rates.

—The decline in gold in the face of the legal-tender decision seems to indicate that the speculative cliques in New York received a fatal blow in the panic of last September, not so much in what they actually lost as in the exposure of the utter hollowness of all the specious pretences they had so long been using to raise or depress prices, and in the ruin of so many of the merchants whose foolish operations on the Gold Exchange had kept up the business of the speculators. The lesson was a wholesome one, though very severe, and it has produced its results. The conservative *Journal of Commerce* underlines to-day's head, day after day, berated all engaged in gold speculations, and talked in good round terms to the merchants whose purchases kept speculation alive. All sorts of ingenious excuses were kept manufactured daily, for borrowing it, for being, in fact, in gold dabbling all the time, to keep a stock on hand for use, instead of going into the market and buying it when needed. But the panic, and the influence of the colossal new commercial organization together, have done the work. The legal-tender decision is dead, and it will probably take as long to procure a resuscitation as it has taken in London for the speculative spirit to recover from the prostration following the Overend, Gurney & Co. panic.

No doubt the depression in gold is materially assisted by the operations of the bull clique of traders to break down protection. As the gold premium is so much additional protection to Hywood's manufactures, the foreign interests have, no doubt, combined to put it down, and they will be sure to keep it full of ease, grace and vitality. Its personages are true to nature. The thirsty hunter quaffing leisurely from the liquid stream, the faithful retriever, sixteen wide, and eight high, on which was cut in gray stone these words: "Gradivus hic situs Rex." The skeleton was found entire, twenty-five and a quarter feet long, ten feet across the shoulders, and five feet from the breast bone to the back. We have no doubt that "there were giants in those days," and the earth is not entirely prolific in producing them than the present. But the history of giants during the olden time was one more pleasure is worth, that of dwarfs, several of whom were even smaller than the Thumbs and Nutts of our own time.

No doubt the depression in gold is materially assisted by the operations of the bull clique of traders to break down protection. As the gold premium is so much additional protection to Hywood's manufactures, the foreign interests have, no doubt, combined to put it down, and they will be sure to keep it full of ease, grace and vitality. Its personages are true to nature. The thirsty hunter quaffing leisurely from the liquid stream, the faithful retriever, sixteen wide, and eight high, on which was cut in gray stone these words: "Gradivus hic situs Rex." The skeleton was found entire, twenty-five and a quarter feet long, ten feet across the shoulders, and five feet from the breast bone to the back. We have no doubt that "there were giants in those days," and the earth is not entirely prolific in producing them than the present. But the history of giants during the olden time was one more pleasure is worth, that of dwarfs, several of whom were even smaller than the Thumbs and Nutts of our own time.

James T. Brady & Co., corner of Fourth avenue and Wood street, quote United States securities in New York to-day as follows:

	Feb. 15.	Feb. 16.	Adv.	Dec.
Gold	119½	119¾	¼	
U. S. Bonds, 1881	117½	117⅝		⅛
U. S. Bonds, 5-20s, '62	114½	114⅝		⅛
U. S. Bonds, 5-20s, '64	114½	114⅝		⅛
U. S. Bonds, 5-20s, '65	115⅛	115⅜		⅛
U. S. Bonds, 5-20s '67	115⅛	115⅜		⅛
U. S. Bonds, 5-20s, '68	115⅛	115⅜		⅛
U. S. bonds, 10-40s	112⅝	112⅞		⅛
U. S. Currency	110½	110¾		⅛

The following table, made up from dispatches received at J. W. Kennedy's Stock Rooms, Apollo Building, No. 80 Fourth avenue, shows the prices of Railway Stocks, Gold, etc., at the various sessions of the New York Boards during the day:

February 16, 1870.	10 00 AM	11 30 AM	12 M.	1 30 P. M.	4 00 P. M.
New York Central	107½	107¾	107¾	108½	108½
Erie	28¾	28¾	28¾	28¾	28¾
Harlem	147	147			
Michigan Central	130	130			
Michigan Southern	93½	93½	93½	93½	93½
Illinois Central					
Cleveland and Pittsburgh	101½	101½	101½	102	102½
Chicago and Northwestern	71½	71½	71½	72	72
Do. preferred	84	84	84	84	84
Rock Island	122½	122½	122½	122½	122½
Pittsburgh					
Fort Wayne					
Cleveland and Toledo		91½	91½	91½	91½
Toledo and Wabash pref.		91½	91½	91½	91½
Ohio and Mississippi		31	31	31	31
Chicago and Alton		136½		135½	135½
Do. preferred					
Western Union Telegraph		34½	34½	34½	34½
Pacific Mail		97½	97½	97½	97½
Adams Express		58½	58½	58½	58½
United States Express		47½			
Wells, Fargo & Co. Express		37½			
American Union Express		20½			
New York Central scrip	120	119½	119½	119½	119½
Reading	97½	97½	97½	97½	97½

A comparison between yesterday's and today's closing quotations shows the following changes:

	Tues.	Wed.	Adv.	Dec.
N. Y. Central	107½	108½	½	
Erie	28¾	28¾		
Harlem	147	147½	½	
Reading	98¾	98		¾
Mich. Central	121	121		
Mich. Southern	93	93½	½	
Illinois Central	147½	147½		
Cleve. and Pitts.	101½	102	½	
Chicago and North	73¼	72		1¼
Do. preferred	84	84		
Rock Island	122½	122½		
St. Paul	77	77		
Fort Wayne	91½	92	½	
Chicago and Alton	136	135½		½
Ohio and Miss.	30¾	31	¼	
Western U. Tel.	34¾	34½		¼
Pacific Mail	97½	97½		
Adams Express	62	62		
Wells, Fargo & Co.	39	39¼	¼	
American Ex. U. Ex. Co.	20½	20½		
U. S. Express	50½	50½		
New York Scrip	119½	119½		

*Ex-dividend.

—James W. Kennedy, Broker, No. 80 Fourth avenue, (Apollo Building, dealer in United States Bonds, State and Municipal Securities, Railroad, Bank, Insurance and Miscellaneous Stocks. Having a permanent seat at the New York Boards every day while in session, he purchases and sells on commission any stocks on the regular lists on the same terms as the leading N. Y. brokers. Governments, Gold and Railway Stocks purchased for customers on the usual margin.

PRODUCE AND GENERAL MARKETS.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, WEDNESDAY EVENING, February 15, 1

Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 1870.

TERMS:

One copy, per year.....$2 00
In clubs of twenty, per year.....1 50
One copy gratis to the getter-up of the club.

GOVERNOR GEARY'S RIGHTEOUS VETO.

That there should be an outcry against Governor GEARY for his veto of the Philadelphia police bill is natural. It has been the darling object of a ring of politicians, within the Republican party of that city, for years. But it has never been desired by the Republicans as a party, or by any considerable number of its substantial and intelligent members, who do not make politics their trade. A similar project has been heretofore vetoed by two Governors of the State—PACKER and CURTIN—and we are assured by the Philadelphia papers that the measure disposed of by Governor GEARY was even more objectionable than its predecessors, which failed to meet Executive approval.

Without entering into any discussion of the details of the bill, the principle on which it is based, strikes us as radically wrong. It destroys the American principle of local sovereignty which is the basis on which the whole frame-work of our institutions rest. It says the people of Philadelphia in their elective capacity, and acting under the forms of law in force since our Government was formed, are not capable of administering their police affairs, but that the Legislature of the State does possess that capacity. Admit this principle, and it tends directly to the centralization of power in Harrisburg now exercised by the people through their respective city, county and townships governments. It is a death blow to the local sovereignty of the people.

If the people of Philadelphia have made a mistake in electing a Mayor who uses the police for partizan purposes, it is for themselves to rectify the error. The police of that city, we judge by the tone of the press, Republican as well as independent in politics, is no better and no worse than it usually is. Say that it is bad, is it likely to be remedied by placing it under the control of a Board of Commissioners, composed of partizans and appointed for avowedly personal and partizan purposes? This is not disguised, and is the substantial reason why the attempt is made to force it upon the Republican party of Pennsylvania as a doctrine of their own faith. For our part, we reject it. If the police administration of Philadelphia is bad, let the people of Philadelphia vote out Mayor FOX and vote in a good Republican who will make it what it should be, precisely as the people of Pittsburgh voted out Mayor BLACKMORE and voted in Mayor BRUSH. The whole design of the act is to transfer the odium of a partizan police from the Democratic to the Republican party; and to do this, the entire Republican organization of the State is dragged into the melee, and incited to violate every principle of justice, and trample under foot the most valued precedents of our political system.

So much for the general principles involved. But all this aside, the bill is so objectionable in its details, that some portion or other of it, is rejected by every one of the entire press of the city. We think there is only one paper in Philadelphia that goes for the bill unqualifiedly. It provides a cumbersome and costly system of police administration; makes the Commissioners it appoints the masters of the local legislature—in fact it places the whole government of Philadelphia, legislative and judicial, as well as executive and administrative, under the control of a "ring" of politicians, whose mere agents the Commissioners appointed by the Legislature are well understood to be. Have the people fallen so low in honesty and foresight, that they must surrender the right of self-government to the lobby infesting the State Capital? That is precisely what the metropolitan police bill contemplates.

We thank Governor GEARY for his statesmanlike and truly American veto of this disreputable project. Gov. PACKER and Governor CURTIN both won high honor for rejecting a bill even less obnoxious. The tide is against all such measures. They are part and parcel of the damnable corruption at Harrisburg that the people of Pennsylvania have determined to obliterate, and this determination will be persevered in until the supremacy of "rings," and the whole brood of "pinchers" and "roosters" that attach to them, is torn up root and branch, and the scoundrels remitted, to prey upon each other, or develope a capacity for usefulness in the State's prison.

AMERICAN NEGLECT OF EDUCATION.

An American summoned by foreign assaults upon our institutions, or prompted by patriotism to defend them, confidently points to our common schools and to the general interest taken in popular education as things in which we may glory without fear that our pretensions can be gainsaid, or denied. When pressed by facts apparently adverse to his argument, he may copiously cite praises bestowed upon us for these advantages, by British Tories and by avowed enemies of democracy of all classes. As for the republicans and liberals of the old world, many volumes have been written and published by them for the purpose of recommending our educational spirit and example to the admiration and imitation of those who envy and malign us.

In this world of unfaltering conflict between good and evil, between progression and retrogression, it is, perhaps, never wise to indulge in exultation over what we have achieved. The laurels won by victory over ignorance can be kept green only by incessant battle. With regard to this subject of popular education in particular, much of the complacency which has been so common among us has been unwarranted by facts. We have too frequently forgotten or overlooked the achievements of other nations, and we have too much over estimated the performance of our own. Two or three illustrations of the subject are all that we at present purpose to indicate. A careful examination of what Scotland, within the last one hundred and fifty years, has done in the cause of the education of the people would by itself suffice to make us modest in our claims of merit in the same direction. Switzerland and some of the German States must be admitted to be considerably in advance of us both in the general diffusion, and in the solid character of the instruction imparted by the State to its children—and in connection with these European countries, it is worth mentioning that despotic Austria has recently inaugurated a system of common schools, which, in various excellence, probably surpasses all other existing systems. These, however, are all Christian countries, and we may allege that, in view of their antiquity, it is their shame not to have begun to educate the people centuries ago. Some may even claim that their modern educational zeal was, perhaps, kindled by our example. The correctness of such a claim we neither concede nor deny—but point to the other side of the globe to an ancient nation in respect to which no similar claim can be laid in. Travelers in China inform us that the Chinese are a nation of readers, and that the taste for books seems to be as widely spread abroad as the ability to enjoy them. All classes read. We have high authority for the statement that "the first Chinaman who is unable to read in his own language has yet to arrive in California." Coming farther West we learn that "the Sultan of Turkey has lately established a system of compulsory education throughout the Ottoman empire." The course of study prescribed comprises the alphabet, the Koran, the Tedjvidi and book of morals, catechism, writing, elements of arithmetic, Turkish history, elements of geography, epitome of practical education. In this course girls as well as boys are instructed. For non-attendance fines are inflicted on the parents, and if these should prove ineffectual, the children are withdrawn from their parents' guardianship.

In illustration of our own shortcomings in this important matter abundant statistics are at hand. Two or three general facts show clearly beyond dispute that as a nation we are still far from appreciating the necessity of popular education to the prosperous and successful operation of our free institutions. As it is considered disgraceful not to be able to read, it is probable that, in taking the census, many were represented as possessing this accomplishment who either could not read, or read with such difficulty that their skill was of little use to them. Yet according to the Census Report of 1860, "more than one out of every six adults in the United States were *analphabets*, or unable to read." A competent gentleman who has prepared statistical tables for the Department of Education, Dr. LEE, expresses the opinion that, at present, seven millions of the American people are unable to read. In some of the territories education has been wholly neglected. In New Mexico two generations have grown up ignorant of the language of the people who govern them, while in Utah a condition of things nearly as unsatisfactory exists.

Perhaps in considering the subject of popular education we are not sufficiently accustomed to look abroad over the entire country. Under our republican system, the destinies of all the people of all the States are bound together, and the efficiency of the schools in one region cannot compensate bad schools, or the absence of schools in other regions. A Department of Education in Washington, ably and energetically managed, seems indispensable that the wants of the whole country in this direction may be adequately attended to.

PHILADELPHIA SUPPORTS GOVERNOR GEARY.

The Republicans of Philadelphia warmly support the action of Governor GEARY in vetoing the Metropolitan Police Bill. The opinion that the bill would prove an aggravation rather than a cure for the evils under which the city now suffers, is concurred in by the Republican press, with two exceptions, and these are so feeble as to amount to a virtual admission that the veto is right and a deliverance from a power that would prove potent only for evil. The Republican party in the city is all the stronger for the veto, for the evidence is complete that the Governor has conformed his action to its views and wishes. To this conclusion we are drawn by the facts that aside from those expecting to reap some personal advantage in administering the new law, the Republican leaders, masses and press of the city opposed its passage, and failing in that, petitioned the Governor to veto it. Of this the reader can judge from the following quotations:

[From the Post.]

Governor Geary's veto of the Metropolitan Police bill is an edandful deed, and we consider it of even more importance than his military victories. The glory of the one will be soon forgotten, or fade away in futurity, three or four years hence, people will forget having defeated General Mitchell for Governor of Virginia, and the title of Major General Geary will arouse no enthusiasm. But he will be remembered as the man who vetoed the Police bill, and that will be more honor than he has a right to expect.

[From the Inquirer.]

Philadelphia owes a large debt of gratitude to Governor Geary for the very determined attitude he assumed in vetoing the Metropolitan Police Bill. The measure of the political elements of his party were brought to bear upon him with peculiar force, and it was through the influence of Senator Cameron, in a great degree, that he was induced firmly to sit by the city in the emergency. A veto under the circumstances was a test which, to some minds, was not difficult to decide against as for. The need of intelligent help for a large police force in this city suffers from was very great. This bill provided at least a partisan, and it could not have commanded the endorsement of the Governor's own party. All these considerations, however, did not influence the veto which will receive the commendation of all the true friends of Philadelphia.

[From the Day.]

This act of manly independence will redound to the Governor's credit in all times to come. Its immediate result is a heightened sense of security. Mark how the organs of Cameron's party fall in line with our city the Governor's track! At last we have an assurance, that however ambitious may prostitute their powers and conspire to defeat the will of the people, the Executive will stand between them and the people they so willingly defy. The authors of the infamously partisan measure now before the Senate and House, as well as its advocates, have now leisure for reflection, if wise, they will not be slow to improve it. Otherwise, they will but dash themselves against a rock.

[From the Evening Bulletin.]

While the veto message of the Governor in many of its parts is open to severe criticism for the sophistry of its reasoning, the secret of his action is undoubtedly a correct one that this particular bill was highly objectionable to the great body of our citizens. We are and always have been, of the opinion that a properly organized metropolitan police force would be a great improvement upon the present system; but the bill just defeated did not provide for any such result. The method of appointing the commission named was in itself sufficient cause for a refusal to approve the bill. To be acceptable and useful, such a measure should be as near as possible free from partisanship.

[From the Press, (urging feeble exceptions.)]

Perhaps the veto of the Metropolitan Police bill was generally expected. The veto, therefore, occasioned as a fact, carried no disappointment with it. * * *

We have steadily preferred, and up to the passage of the bill advocated an immediate elective commission; but, after the passage of the act, we were not disposed to overlook the errors it contained, which in very large measure would be rectified, and to defeat the reform to the people. Had our contemporaries acted as promptly as these might have done a large possibility of securing something like good—but let better than the present system, though we fail to trace any of their reasonings in the veto message.

[From the Ledger.]

The Governor's veto of the Metropolitan Police Bill has saved the city from a great wrong. His act is sound in principle, and will command the public confidence. He deserves the thanks of good citizens of all parties. We shall not recite the reasoning of the able state paper returning the bill, but commend the document to the close attention of the public. It aminiates a well-deserved rebuke to the factious and admonitions to Richard when pressed by Buckingham.

[From the Telegraph.]

Much as we desire the establishment of a Metropolitan Police, free from the incessant changes connected with the party spirit, and such as we have for the relief of the city from Fox's inefficient force, we believe that the new police bill would have done infinite more harm than good, and we therefore approve the Governor Geary for having vetoed it. We have freely commended him for like action on previous occasions, we will regret that he has not on other occasions scrutinized bills presented for his signature with the care he has displayed in this instance, but he deserves his free credit for his unhesitating opposition to bad legislative inquiry.

[From the Bulletin, (pitily objecting.)]

The *Evening Bulletin* has expressed its dissent to the precise shape of the bill, only on the ground that the particular Commissioners named in it were, as a whole, the strongest or best that could have been selected. We believed that any objection to the Governor on *this point* might have been met by an agreement upon a different list of Commissioners. We have never opposed the principle of the bill. On the contrary, it is a maker of history that the Republican party won its last victory in Philadelphia and Pennsylvania by virtue of the pledge given to the people that they should have a good Metropolitan Police. The Governor does not meet at all in the point of objection which this paper has offered to the bill, but rests almost entirely upon the *theoretical* difficulty which leaves Philadelphia, for we know not how long, under the present manager and disgrace of the present Democratic police.

PUNISHMENT OF DEATH.

The New York *Post* reviews "the punishment of death"—the reasons advanced for its retention or abolition. It is not satisfied that it would be the part of wisdom to abolish capital punishment, and stoutly maintains the right of the State to take the life of a criminal. But still the *Post* admits that public sentiment is far in advance of legislation on the subject, and that the advocates of the substitution of imprisonment for death are gaining ground largely, in this country, in England and on the continent. In Tuscany, in Portugal, and in several of the smaller German principalities, and in three or four states of the Union, the death penalty has been abolished by law. In England a large body of philanthropic reformers are engaged in constant appeals against capital punishment, and public sentiment has so far progressed that it is exceedingly difficult to obtain a conviction on a capital charge. The fact, well attested by experience, that the milder punishments of recent times have been far more effective in repressing violent crimes, than the old disposition to hang, is producing results in England, and especially among members of Parliament, favorable to the abolition of hanging. In fact, nearly all the official information now accessible, upon the effect exerted upon the murderous classes by the threat, and the infliction of different kinds of punishment, seems to indicate that, in practice, the gallows are even less useful, as a safeguard to life, than the jail. In this connection it is worthy of note that among those who, on principle, maintain the death penalty, is JOHN STUART MILL, and his only new argument in favor of killing murderers is that death is a milder punishment than a long imprisonment. Advocates of the extreme penalty, on the contrary, generally defend it on the ground that it is the most terrible fate, the threat of which society can use to deter men from taking life.

In its assignments of reasons adverse to the death penalty, the *Post* submits one which strikes us as possessing considerable force, although it is somewhat novel in its character. We quote from the article to which reference was made at the outset:

> Is it right for a government to demand of any of its subjects a service so hideously inhuman as that of the public executioner? This is an awkward question for the advocates of the death penalty, and they have never seen a satisfactory answer. It concerns only a few persons, but it concerns them deeply. A young man is taken, all his feelings of kindness are blunted, his reverence for human life destroyed, his character in addition to the taxes now required to be paid to the city, pay one-fourth part of their gross receipts for the year, exceeding two thousand dollars, including all sum now required to be paid by them, and it shall make sworn statements every January to the City Controller, and pay over the same within thirty days under penalty of suspension from office or removal. The court, upon application of the Controller, or either branch of the City Councils, may appoint an auditor. All records shall be transferred to their successors upon the retirement of any officers.

This bill now goes to the House, and we trust an amendment will be attached to it cutting off some of the extravagant salaries in the way of fees, realized by county officers of Allegheny county. It is a reform loudly called for by our citizens. There is no opposition to liberal salaries, but the system of ten and fifteen thousand dollars in fees, per annum, should be abolished at once. This is especially the case in the offices of Sheriff, Clerk of the Quarter Sessions, Prothonotary, Recorder, and, we may add, Mayor of the city of Pittsburgh. Possibly there are others, but public rumor credits these officials with receiving most extravagant salaries; so large in fact that the expenditure of a round sum in securing nominations, by buying up delegates and buying off competing candidates, is deemed to be within the line of prudent investment. This charge is freely made as to the county officers, and while we acquit Mayor BRUSH of any such transactions, yet the fact that his office is worth ten or fifteen thousand dollars per annum will be sure in the contests of the future to encircle it with as much corruption as attaches to any of the court house offices.

In the interest of a salutary reform, and of the purity of Republican nominating conventions, as well as on the general principle of economy, we hope the same system of a liberal salary instead of exorbitant fees, will be applied to our county officials as the law referred to above contemplates for Philadelphia.

It is to be hoped that we will have no more legislative caucuses at Harisburg, to bind members of the Republican party to support any of the pet schemes of the political corruptionists in Philadelphia and elsewhere in the State. The police bill was passed under the influence of the caucus lash. Had it come up purely on its merits it would have been very generally rejected. But its promoters knew the inherent rottenness of the proposition, and, therefore, figured to secure for it the indorsement of a caucus. They succeeded, and but for the wisdom of Governor GEARY the Republican party would have been saddled with a measure in comparison with which most of the evil legislation of the past would be of little account. This caucus system as applied to ordinary matters of legislation, affecting alike members of all parties, is a monstrous evil, and we trust has had its day in Harrisburg. It has been perverted from its original purpose, and is now the machinery relied on by rings and combinations to carry through the most detestable measures. It slinks the responsibility of a representative under the cover of a party name, and while it relieves members, to some extent, from the odium attaching to their acts, it works the greater evil of bringing discredit upon the whole party, and thereby endangering its future success and usefulness. Let every professedly non-political that has to be engineered through by caucus management, and without discussion, must of necessity be wrong. We hope that hereafter there will be enough of Republican members, who will set their faces against the system, by refusing to participate in such caucuses, to effectually break up caucus rule in the Legislature. It is anti-republican in its character, and a trick upon the intelligence of the people.

BOTH in England and in this country for some years now much has been spoken and written with the view of exciting popular interest in the subject of natural history. Mineralogy and geology are recommended by the hope of finding wealth in the bowels of the earth, and for this reason especially have become favorite studies with great numbers. Zoology has languished. With a few devoted and enthusiastic students, it is still far from occupying in the attention of our people the place to which its importance entitles it. Perhaps the rhetorical uses of the subject, so strikingly and beautifully exemplified in a recent Congressional debate may result in imparting fresh interest to the science. A quotation from an obscure living poet by a prominent member in the House of Commons has been known to create a demand for the poet's works, which carried off an entire edition, and an allusion to Don QUIXOTE by another member some years ago, is said to have created a lively demand for Spanish grammars and dictionaries. It seems, then, not unlikely that the zoological allusions and free application of zoological terms by Messrs. BUTLER and COX a few days ago, in the House of Representatives, may prompt not a few of our young folks to study the classification of animals. Should the example of these great orators be all generally followed by their congressional confreres some considerable attainments in natural history will be necessary to the comprehension of the Congressional speeches. This new application of zoology is interesting from another point of view. BUTLER described COX by giving him the name of a well known member of the animal kingdom, apparently impressed with the resemblance between the two. COX at once placed BUTLER among the pachydermata. This method of characterization going on for a while, the House of Representatives will be a regular menagerie—with each genus and species of the animal world as duly represented as the people.

IN interposing his veto to protect the city of Philadelphia from the machinations of the Metropolitan Police Ring, Gov. GEARY has done a brave and righteous act. The bill transferred the city bodily to the keeping of politicians of a class that gave promise chiefly of increased expense, the gratification of schemes of plunder and the exercise of arbitrary power. It was contrary to all correct ideas of sound public policy, and in direct opposition to the rising tide of popular sentiment demanding reforms in every department of the public service. It had its origin with men of whom the State and country have seen quite enough in connection with the vital interests of the people. In stepping between these men and their plunder Governor GEARY has earned, and we make no doubt will receive, the hearty thanks of the great body of the people of Philadelphia, as well as of the State at large, who will congratulate their city brethren on having so prompt and brave a defender. We are assured that the bill is dead and buried; and we hope with it a class of politicians who at best are nuisances floating on the surface of the dirtiest of all pools in the dirtiest of local politics.

PRACTICAL STATESMEN of considerable eminence have loudly and ostentatiously declared their disbelief of the details of history. One cannot fail to be reminded of their disbelief and of misgivings of one's own, by the recent revelation with which the public have been favored in regard to Mr. CAMERON's withdrawal from Mr. LINCOLN's Cabinet. Mr. MCCLURE's plain narrative is surely well adapted to inspire skepticism in regard to the awards of history. During the present century, ingenious research has brought to light some remarkable illustrations of the manner in which fictitious exploits have sometimes been made to pass for realities, in which charlatans succeeded in not only shielding themselves from pulishment, but in getting credit for actions not performed, and for wisdom not their own. These things, however, generally happened in less enlightened ages than ours. Perhaps few or no newspapers and no magazines were published. And, if a few such mistakes have been detected by the investigations of later times, how unlikely it seems that half of those actually made have ever or will ever come to light?

Our celebrated Pennsylvania jobber and political quack was actually driven from Mr. LINCOLN's Cabinet in consequence of the odium and distrust produced among moneyed men by his evil reputation and his evil deeds. Money could not be procured to carry on the war while he remained in a position which gave him opportunities of misappropriation, and his retirement was, therefore, a necessity. And yet, after his successor had been installed, through the good nature of Mr. LINCOLN and his ministers, an elaborate arrangement was made by which CAMERON's feelings should be spared and his credit maintained before the country. The actual facts were of a character to wound his sensibilities and to damage his reputation, and for the sake of both, fiction was resorted to. A correspondence was constructed, in which CAMERON *appeared* to resign, Mr. LINCOLN *appeared* to accept his resignation, and also *appeared* to highly esteem his late Minister for his services, as the Russian appointment could not by the simple-minded be understood in any other way.

No one, we suppose, will think less highly of Mr. LINCOLN for his share in this transaction. He was kind to a fault, as everybody knows. Nor do we fancy that, at present, any one will feel called upon to revise his estimate of CAMERON in consequence of Mr. MCCLURE's statement. The affair is worthy of comment merely as a striking modern instance of the manner in which history has probably often been made. The incident is also instructive as showing how in this age of newspapers and magazines such secrets inevitably at last transpire.

AMONG the cable dispatches in our paper of yesterday was the statement that the *Pall Mall Gazette* of the day, contained an article "severely reflecting upon the insincerity of the Rev. Mr. TEMPLE's disclaimer." No doubt, this sentence was a puzzle to some of our readers. Many probably wondered that the foreign editor had supposed a newspaper opinion of Mr. TEMPLE's character, to be so important to us on this side of the Atlantic, as to be worthy of transmission with such speed. What is HECUBA to us? The truth almost certainly is that the man of the telegraph estimates our feelings by those of the people around him. He is intoxicated by his atmosphere. For reasons both of brevity and locality, many weeks ago, when Mr. TEMPLE's nomination as Bishop of Exeter was first announced, all Episcopal and much of non-conformist England have been violently agitated by the appointment. During the prevalence of this theological storm there have been sometruly remarkable revelations of character and of party spirit among both the friends and the antagonists of the new bishop. Things have been done on each side of which after a while both parties will be ashamed we may be sure. The Broad church men, who claim Mr. TEMPLE as one of themselves, had proclaimed through prominent members of their party before this appointment was made, that the peculiar condition of the English church compels its members to the obligation of fully avowing their doctrinal views. Some of them at least hold that reticence in regard to changes of opinion since their ordination may sometimes be a duty. By his share in the memorable Essays and Reviews, Mr. TEMPLE had appeared to identify himself with a school from which he certainly dissents on some weighty matters. But he has steadfastly refused to denounce the objectionable school indiscriminately, or to say that his sympathies are not with them in some respects. The "disclaimer" referred to in the dispatch is, we believe, an attempt of his to define his position towards the Essays and Reviews, in the diminutest and precise, we suppose, seems to the *Pall Mall Gazette* to justify the charge of insincerity. Practically, Dr. TEMPLE is known as one of the men in England who have been most self-denying and most active in doing good. The temper of some of his opponents in this controversy may be inferred from the fact that, as a measure of resistance to his election, they attempted to throw doubts on the legitimacy of his birth. This seems incredible, and the report may be a mere invention of the enemy.

SENATOR HOWARD'S bill, to secure to the credit of the tax-payers the interest upon all the "unexpended balances" in the county, extends to the large fund under the control of the Central Board of Education. This Board, or certain members of it, seem to regard the bill as a reflection upon them personally, and complain of the indignity put upon them by proposing to take the funds out of their hands without even consulting them. They accordingly appointed a committee, at the last meeting, to procure such modifications as would place at least a portion of the funds under the control of the Board, and render the legislation less objectionable to them. This view is altogether unwarranted, as the bill *reflects* upon nothing but the *system* of using the public moneys for private advantage. If this is offensive to anybody the Senator who drafted the bill is certainly not to blame. As to "consultation" with the Board, the bill was published in all the newspapers, and as public officers they were bound to take cognizance of it. It treats this Board just as it treats all other officers having the people's money, and because they are a Board of "respectable and responsible gentlemen," is no reason why there should be any exceptions in the law in favor of them. The people indorse the principle of the bill as correct, and it should be passed without special clauses in favor of any individual or Board.

THE latest pincher of one of the Philadelphia rings is the charter of the City Sewerage Utilization Company, whose objects are defined in this section of the proposed charter:

> "The said Company shall have the right to charge and collect from the owners of tenement, messuages and fifty cents per ton in consideration for the removal of [illegible] and night soil or other parts of the [illegible] in Philadelphia."

There are one hundred thousand houses in Philadelphia, and under this bill the magnanimous Utilization Company, could levy a tax of about three hundred thousand dollars, as it is estimated each house would average not less than two tons of ashes per annum. What a glorious figure to divide! As in the Metropolitan Police bill, a caucus of Republicen members should be committed to the support of the Utilization scheme. This would make it a party measure, and it could be made so with precisely as much reason as the Police bill. These plunderers have queer notions of the mission of a great political organization; but we judge they will awake some day to an appreciation of the fact that the immediate mission of the Republican party is to set its own house in order by kicking them out of doors.

RINGS are at a fearful discount with the people, the Legislature and the Governor of the State. The latest one smashed is the Philadelphia police ring, a new invention, which came to its death yesterday at the hands of Governor GEARY. Should any of these pet contrivances of corrupt politicians escape both Governor and Legislature, the people will take charge of them and their abettors. Their fate then will be no uncertain question; that is, between the Governor and the Legislature we are getting along pretty well. "Organs" are uncomfortable as a matter of course; their affinity for the "ring" masters naturally renders them so.

THE free-traders in disguise say that by letting in steel and iron at nominal duties "cheaper food, cheaper clothes, cheaper houses, cheaper fuel" will be the result. Without stopping to argue the grounds of this assumption, which, we will say, however, are entirely untenable, we will ask these "reformers" why they resist free coffee, tea and kindred articles, which enter into the living of every person, and form a part of every thing produced in this country? They propose to levy on these articles a tariff amounting in the aggregate to $90,000,000 annually—a tax compensated for in no shape or manner, for we produce few or none of these articles; whereas, the duties on iron and steel are compensated for by the employment of American capital and labor, and a home market for whatever is consumed in their production. In every ton imported is included so much profit to the foreign manufacturer, so much money paid to foreign labor, so much foreign breadstuffs, clothing, etc., all brought here to compete with American capital, labor, breadstuffs, clothing, etc. Not so, however, with tea, coffee, etc., for we produce none of these. The free introduction of these articles would cheapen living and the cost of manufactures. In the matter of duties alone the saving would be equal to $60,000,000. Which is the better policy?

IN the light of recent events, as the stump orators say, let us examine into the existing condition of the Republican party of Pennsylvania. We use the figures of the "organ." There have been organic excommunications covering the following classes and individuals:

The Governor of the State;
The Legislature of the State;
The friends of Retrenchment and Reform;
The opponents of corrupt special legislation;
The people who helped smash the Treasury ring;
The people who insist on the unexpended balance being used in the interest of the taxpayers;
The people in the western end of the State who desire the improvement of the Beaver Canal;
The people at the east who rejoice over the veto of the Metropolitan Police bill, including
The Republican press and people of Philadelphia; and finally
All opponents of "rings" and corrupt practices in legislation.

Accepting this as the actual condition of the party, we have left as embodying its numerical strength, virtue and intelligence, CAMERON and his "organ."

THE Philadelphia *Ledger*, always careful and non-partizan in its course, earnestly opposes the Metropolitan police law, and urges its veto upon the Governor. The *Ledger* says the proposed law is objectionable to a majority of the Republican voters of Philadelphia, and that of the six principal Republican journals of the city, at least four object to the bill. As this law has become a matter of State concern, we invite attention to these remarks of the *Ledger*:

> An overwhelming majority of the people are against the bill. It is a crude measure, designed for the benefit of a few men, to the injury of the police force, or the welfare of the city. It does not in any way take the police out of politics; it does not provide for a succession of men by merit; it does not make their continuance in office depend on their fitness; it does not secure them against the influence or good order, or the good of the public, or even for good conduct on the force, except as to physical competency and age.

After exposing the additional expenditure made necessary by the law, the *Ledger* pointedly concludes that the bill, if approved by the Governor, "will certainly place the whole government of Philadelphia, *legislative and judicial*, as well as executive and administrative, under control of the 'rings,' which the people, and especially the Republican party, have been struggling to get rid of for so many years."

SOME points made by Governor GEARY in his veto message deserve to be impressed on the public mind. The police bill proposed to divide the police power among six men, chosen by the Legislature, of whom the Mayor is one—the very individual decreased as a corrupt partisan. The electors of Philadelphia did not have a voice under the machinery of the bill to have selected a new Board under five years, and could not have changed a majority in less than three years. For this long time to whom would the Police Commissioners have been responsible? Not to the Legislature, which changes annually. Not to the electors of the city, for they have had nothing to do with the appointment of the Board. In fact they would have been responsible to no one. Yet the bill so righteously vetoed invested them with a power greater than that exercised by the Governor of the State, by all the judges in Philadelphia, by the Mayor of the city, or by the City Councils. As anything else conceived of a more monstrous character?

GEN. GRANT has recently expressed an opinion favorable to a reduction of the taxes as a measure expected by the people and of wise statesmanship. We have reason to believe that the free traders, under whatever disguise they present themselves, will receive little encouragement from him. His message betrayed his sympathy for a genuine American policy, the development of the marvellous resources of our country, and, so far as possible, complete independence. If taxes are to be reduced, free trade and everything resembling it must be abandoned. Let Gen. GRANT place himself in the lead and plant himself on the American platform of protection and down with the taxes, and nothing will be able to stand before him. In the future of American politics it is not difficult to perceive this is to be a prominent idea.

GOVERNOR GEARY, of course, will be read out of the Republican party to-day, by papers of limited circulation, delighting in the "organ" collar. It is a way they have of exhibiting their mental condition, which, unfortunately, the Fifteenth Amendment fails to reach. The Legislature not long ago was read out. Next, the people will be read out. Where then, pray, will the "organs" be? In some such condition we imagine as the fabled spirit who couldn't get into Heaven, and was kicked out of a warmer locality. It is sad, the condition of these "organs;" but we can see no hope for them save in repentance or confession, but the latter is equivalent to suicide.

GEN. NEGLEY, it is reported, will make a movement in the House of Representatives for the extinguishment of West Point. The report may do our representative injustice. The recollection of the events of the last ten years is too vivid to render the undertaking popular or practicable at this time. Some West Pointers failed, and so did some civilians; but the advantages resulting from training at that institution were too great to be recompensed by its abolishment, and the possibilities of the future do not counsel such a step either on the score of economy or statesmanship.

THE New York Legislature is called on to repeal "the infamous Erie Bill," as the *World* calls it, passed last winter, whereby FISK, GOULD & Co. made their grab on the Erie Road perpetual. The bill was copied from the one passed by the Pennsylvania Legislature in behalf of the Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne and Chicago Road. Legislation of this description is in the highest degree dangerous, utterly reprehensible, and for the sake of the example, if for no other reason, should stand no longer than a better public sentiment can induce its repeal.

APPLICATIONS will be received in Pittsburgh, at the office of the "organ," for the formation of a select party, devoted to ring politics. The Governor, the Republican members of the Legislature, and all opponents of the Philadelphia police bill will be rigidly excluded. Application must be made at an early date; there is not much danger of crowding, as the quality of the material solicited is of a very select pattern, and it is desirable that the dividends should be large.

THE music grows discordant. The "organs" are not in tune. The branch in Pittsburgh froths at the mouth over the veto, while the one at Harrisburg, the *Telegraph* by name, says "the reasons assigned by the Governor for vetoing the Metropolitan Police bill are strong and cannot be controverted." "And thou, too, BRUTUS."

GEN. FRANCIS A. WALKER has resigned his position as Deputy Commissioner of the Revenue in charge of the Bureau of Statistics, and entered upon duty as Superintendent of the Census, on Wednesday. He is appointed under the old law of 1850, which is still in force, though Congress is laboring after something different, if not better. From present appearances, however, the census will probably be all taken and over with before any bill is passed.

THE Committee to investigate the Methodist Book Concern of New York have made a majority and minority report. The former can see nothing wrong and whitewash every thing and everybody. The minority renew the charges and produce the evidence of "irregularity." This state of things destroys confidence, and the Concern must be placed in other hands.

SINCE the Supreme Court decision Chicago has figured up its gold debt, and finds that it amounts to $2,961,662, the interest amounting to $183,000, which will hereafter have to be paid in gold.

HURT BADLY.

The Wreck of Matter and the Crash of Rings.

Groans of the Wounded and Dying.

"JUST AS WE PREDICTED."

"Governor Geary, of course, will be read out of the Republican party to-day, by papers of limited circulation, delighting in the "organ" collar."—*Pittsburgh* COMMERCIAL *of Friday Morning.*

Air—"*Hark from the Tombs,*" *etc.*

"ALL MY PRETTY CHICKS AND THEIR DAM, AT ONE FELL SWOOP."

The Republican party of Pennsylvania has lost its control of the Legislature, and it has lost the Governor whom it elected.

"YOU SUFFERING IS INTOLERABLE."

We have been sold out of both, and by traitors in our own household. Henceforth, let true Republican friends know only each other!

A QUESTION OF STRENGTH AND CARPET BAGS.

We are strong, only without the traitors, not with them. All who are not with us are against us. It is high time that we take this point for a new departure in State politics.

OUR OFFENSE IS KNOWN AND SMELLS TO HEAVEN.

The scurvy bummers, from the highest to the lowest, have dishonored our organization, and made our camps a cover for thieves, should be branded and driven out.

PLEASANT FIELDS AND PASTURES NEW.

With them, we can never be sure of victory; but without them we shall soon find the way open, perhaps through a defeat or two, to fresh and solid triumphs.

THE GRAND CLIMAX.

This will be found true in city, county and State.

[Curtain falls to slow music.]

The Ravings of the Gazette.

To the Editor of the Pittsburgh Commercial:

What is the matter with the *Gazette?* One day one would think that the "old hellhorse" had fallen into the depths of its peculiars. The next, the madness which is said to precede destruction is painfully apparent in its ravings. One day it praises the Governor, and pretends to be his best friend, the next it charges him with being a traitor to his party, and dismisses him from the Republican ranks. A newspaper, once respectable and influential, now wages a daily warfare against the very principles which are the Republican party life, and without which it cannot long exist.

Let the *Gazette* go on! As you were preserve in your issue of to-day, the next step will be to read out the people who elected Geary, Packer and Curtin, and who elected you. There has been such a thing as a newspaper envied, feared, and hated. Madness or folly often lead to even a worse end.

REPUBLICAN.

February 11, 1870.

THE English newspapers have borrowed another idea from the Americans. They have a general press for collecting and transmitting news telegraphically. Heretofore they have been far behind the world in this respect. Their plan is somewhat perfect and expensive apparently, but as we know here, experience will be necessary to give it successful operation, even with all the information afforded by the telegraph lines, which in this country, until quite recently, has been nothing to particularly commend, and hardly worth mentioning. The virtue preserving addition, with what will be exacted, and by some means obtained in the future. Considering the extent of country covered, the amount and variety of matter telegraphed, probably the Western Press does not pay more than this country. It is, however, just learning its shortcomings and how to mend them. Not only in England but in this country, a new departure is about to be taken in the news line, illustrating the enterprise and power of the press. The public will chiefly be benefitted.

THE brain capacity of convicts is successfully utilized in Michigan State Prison, at Jackson. In the shop for the manufacture of agricultural implements is a turning lathe, the doing of work upon which requires a high degree of skill, the invention of a convict named Hinton, which turns sticks of variable thickness, and of any degree of crookedness, short of a double bow-knot, with a rapidity and accuracy indescribable, might with unqualified applause, by eschewing themes presented in the ridiculous, costly and demoralizing habits and fashions which exercise the gentler sex; or by imparting solid and much needed information relating to the duties of wives and housekeepers.

IT is complained that the wholesale fish capture by means of ponds by hundreds of thousands of tons in the spawning season, is rapidly extinguishing the fish in our lakes, and it is earnestly recommended that the practice be stopped with penalties. The catch this year in Lake Michigan is not half the usual quantity. Not the lake region only but much of the country is interested in having this destruction arrested. Michigan has legislated, and the action of Ohio will be invoked.

THE Boston *Transcript* is disposed to be facetious over Chief Justice Chase and his decision, as witness the following:

The legal wonder decision is considered by many rather tough.

The case whose face is on what the Supreme Court calls "irredeemable paper currency" has some cheek to turn its back on his portrait.

The Chief Justice is said to have been unable to identify himself with the ex-Secretary of the Treasury.

No man ever pronounced against his own issue to the extent of Chief Justice Chase.

THE Newark *Advertiser* says that Newark must be the workshop and not the warehouse of the country. It remarks that the seven continental lines of railroad, except the Erie and New York Central, converge to that point, or to its immediate vicinity. Those not actually passing have direct and convenient communication. Newark has uninterrupted lines of transit with New Orleans, Memphis, St. Louis, San Francisco, St. Paul, Buffalo and Pittsburgh, and when the Midland Road is completed it will be a load a car can send it to Montreal without trans-shipment.

IT is stated that the humorous and satirical paper, which has so long been talked about in New York will be issued in the course of a few weeks. Its title, *Punchinello*, has been copyrighted, and offices taken at 83 Nassau street for editorial and publication purposes. It will be a little larger than the London *Punch*, sixteen pages, and is backed by ample capital. Of course it will be profusely illustrated, and the literary matter will be furnished by the best available talent in the country.

THE Government purchases of United States bonds up to February 1, 1870, amount to $96,273,600, and the accrued interest to $899,534, leaving a little larger than $95,000,000 of unredeemed bonds. Of these bonds $25,497,500 belong to the sinking fund and $70,-075,500 are held subject to the directions of Congress. The market value of the bonds estimated at an average premium of 12½ per cent., amounts to $108,307,187.

THE Massachusetts railroads, comprising 2,235 miles, carried during 1869, twenty-eight millions of passengers, killing only ten of the number, thirty-nine employees, and forty persons who were lying or working on the track.

CINCINNATI is agitated with a wholesale annexation scheme, by which it is proposed to take in a population of fifty thousand and, increase the area of the city to forty-two square miles.

GOING SOUTH.

Practical Hints to Northerners Contemplating a Start.

INTEREST FELT IN THE SOUTH.

It is noticeable how much interest is taken all around us in information about the resources of the South, and the inducements offered there to emigrants. An item of practical value, that treats impress of fairness in statement, is caught up by all the newspapers within hundreds of miles. This, too, being the season of the year when planting operations for the year are to be laid out, there is a special desire to know what one who feels drawn Southward ought to be doing if he decides to go this year.

PREPARING TO EMIGRATE—WHAT I